

3pG Prayer and Fasting – SECRETS OF SPIRITUAL STABILITY

Thursday 5th September 2019 - Day 4

BUILDING BLOCK 7: CHARITY

Breaking of Bread: 2 Peter 1:1-7, 8, 10-11

Summary of Secrets of Spiritual Stability and its seven Building Blocks so far covered:

1. **Add Virtue** to faith: Increasingly and deliberately making ones Christian life beautiful for others to see through personal enviable habits and noble character.

2. Add Knowledge to virtue: Increasingly and deliberately searching for and knowing more about God and about the truth through regular withdrawal from God's knowledge Bank, the Bible.

3. Add Temperance to knowledge: The ability to tolerate others more than expected and more than necessary for the sake of the Kingdom. And on personal level, it also mean ability to self control your appetite and moderate your desires for the sake of your Christian profession.

4. Add Patience (Endurance) to temperance: Ability to endure hardship and difficult conditions without feeling bad, dejected and anxious. Patience is not a virtue you employ when things are right, a perfect situation required no

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patience. Patience can only be deploy when things are going contrary to one's expectations. If everything goes as you want them to then you have no need of patience. Patience is a nature of God we learn through adversity. It is by patience God teaches us spiritual maturity.

5. Add Godliness (Purity) to patience: Godliness is being like God. Having the nature of God in you. Jesus Christ is the mystery of godliness (1 Timothy 3:16). The more of Jesus Christ in you, the more of God and His peace in you.

6. Add Brotherly Kindness to godliness: This is fraternal love (*Philia*, *Philadelphia*) between brethren. It is simply a family love with duty of loyalty and sacrifice between sons and daughters of the same Father (in this case, God). It is deeper than *Agape* (general love) and *Eros* (romantic love). It is fraternal love between brethren. Deeply protective and with the duty of care.

7. And for today is the last of the qualities of divine nature we are call to partake in by adding them layer upon layer on the spiritual building of our faith whose Foundation is firmly rooted in Jesus Christ and His righteousness. This seventh is called **Charity.**

Charity is an old English word for love. The Greek word interpreted as charity in our text is *Agape* (general love). It's God kind of love for all His creatures, especially human being. God loves humans, irrespective of colour, creed or background. He gave breath and strength to all: atheists, blasphemers, lovers of God and even to haters of God. God loves and endure patiently with everyone.

This is unlike *Philia* which is love between brothers (brethren) only. Another close variance of *Philia* love is *storge* love (love between parents and their children and vice versa). Apostle Paul summed the two kinds of love: Agape (charity) and Philia (brotherly kindness) in one sentence thus: **''As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good** (charity) **unto all men, especially** (brotherly kindness) **unto them who are of the household of faith''** (Galatians 6:10).

Thanksgiving:

Sing and Praise God for chosen you to hear and pray through these truths. Thank Him for opening your eyes and given your hearts understanding of scriptural mysteries.

Theme Song:

1. My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and	2. When He shall come with trumpet sound,
righteousness;	Oh, may I then in Him be found,
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,	Clothed in His righteousness alone,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.	Faultless to stand before the throne!
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;	On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.	All other ground is sinking sand.

BUILDING BLOCK 7: CHARITY

It is the *agape* love that is listed as the first component of the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22) and it is this same *agape* love that Apostle Paul spoke extensively about in the thirteen chapter of his first epistle to the church in Corinth. We will be dwelling largely today on that important chapter of the Bible.

1 Corinthians 13:1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

1. Father I don't want my walk with You and my work for You to end in vain, give me grace to love unconditionally like You in Jesus Name.

2. I will not serve God in vain, I will not end up like a sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal full of empty noise in Jesus Christ Mighty Name. Amen

1 Corinthians 13:2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

3. My religious exercise and faith will not amount to nothingness before God in Jesus Name. Amen

4. My giving and commitments to God and to service in His vineyard will not be in vain, I will not fail the test of love in Jesus Name. Amen

5. I will not plant for another to harvest, I will not lose my reward of obedience and service in Jesus Name. Amen

1 Corinthians 13:4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

6. God will multiply His grace towards me to endure patiently with people God has put around me, despite their imperfections in Jesus Name.

7. I receive grace to be kind to all men, especially those of the household of faith in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 13:5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

8. Father help me to have control over my own thought and over my spirit in Jesus Name. Amen.

1 Corinthians 13:6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

9. I will not rejoice in iniquity, I will not make the downfall of another a thing of joy in Jesus Name. Amen

10. I will not run from the truth, I will by studying and reading the Word embrace and add divine spiritual values to my life in Jesus Name. Amen

1 Corinthians 13:7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

11. Despite past disappointments from men and women, I won't allow the past to rob me of peace in the present and bliss in the future in Jesus Name. Amen

1 Corinthians 13:8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

12. I will not be tired of loving others for the sake of God's kingdom, as I grow in grace, I will also grow in love in Jesus Christ Mighty Name. Amen

1 Corinthians 13:11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

13. Henceforth, I will talk and understand spiritual things and my thoughts will reflect spiritual maturity in Jesus Christ Name. Amen

1 Corinthians 13:13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

14. I will not trade my faith for love and I will not have faith and hope without charity in Jesus Name. Amen

2 Peter 1:10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

15. I shall never fall, I will be the enviable example of a stable, balance and God centered Christian brother/sister (wife, husband, son/daughter or parents) in Jesus Name. Amen

2 Peter 1:11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

16. I will be diligent in adding these seven qualities to my life and I will not be turned back at the Pearly gate at His appearing in Jesus Name. Amen

17. Add your personal and family prayer requests.

18. Cover all prayers and lessons learned with the Blood of Jesus Christ and seal them with Amen.

May you not be counted among them who draw back unto perdition, may your feet not fall off the grace of Jesus Christ and May you by Him find strength and grace for spiritual stability, now and always in Jesus Christ Mighty Name. Amen and Amen

Happy Covenant of Words - Isaiah 59:21

- Group Admin, 3pG.