

**STEP 12 - HAVING BEEN SPIRITUALLY RESTORED AND SET FREE FROM "THE SIN WHICH DOES SO EASILY BESET US", WE ATTEMPT TO SHARE THIS FREEDOM AND THE ONE WHO HAS FREED US WITH THOSE WHO STILL SUFFER, AND PRACTICE THE LORD'S PRINCIPLES IN ALL OUR AFFAIRS.**

This is a tri-part Step with the second and third parts proceeding from the first.

First is the spiritual restoration that we receive when we accept Jesus Christ into our lives thereby experiencing the rebirth of our spiritual nature and the coming into right relationships with God the Father. Secondly, God tells us "Freely we have received, freely we are to give." This is one of the principles that God gives us, "we can't keep what we don't give away." If having Jesus in our lives is the greatest thing that ever happened to us, nothing will be able to stop us from sharing Him with others. Then, finally, practicing the Lord's principles becomes an on-going, one day at a time, way of living in which we will continue to grow in the Lord and be "transformed from glory to glory."

**ACTS 1:8** - "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth."

1. When do we receive power? Why do we receive it?
2. How can I be an effective witness? Who enables me to be?

**2 CORINTHIANS 1:3 & 4** - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.

1. How does God comfort us? Why does he comfort us?
2. Can we comfort others if we ourselves haven't been comforted?
3. Can our understanding of addiction in AC enable us to minister more effectively to those who have been addicted?

**GALATIANS 6:1 & 2** - Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

1. What should we do when "someone is caught in a sin"? Why should we "watch ourselves"?
2. How do we "restore someone gently"? Why?
3. What does it mean to "carry each others burdens"?

**1 PETER 5:8 & 9** - Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of suffering.

1. What has self-control to do with resisting evil? (Romans 12:9-21)
2. Do we know who our enemy is? Give an example of "standing firm".
3. How do we resist the devil?

**JUDE 20-23** - But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. Be merciful to those who doubt; snatch others from the fire and save them; to others show mercy, mixed with fear - hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.

1. Whose faith are we "building ourselves up in", and whose spirit do we pray in?
2. What three things do the Scriptures direct us to do concerning others?

**2 TIMOTHY 4:3-5** - For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

1. What four things do these Scriptures direct us to do?
2. How many situations are we directed to "keep our heads" in?

**MATTHEW 10:32 & 33** - "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven."

1. How do we "acknowledge" him? How can we "disown" him?
2. Who restored us and keeps us sane and sober? Who is it that we need to share with others?

**ROMANS 10:14-17** - How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news." But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

1. What is the "good news"?
2. How does faith come to the unbeliever? What part do we have in it?
3. Are we to carry the alcoholic or the message?

**MATTHEW 9:35-38** - Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

1. What did Jesus experience when he saw the crowds? Is the lack of what he experienced why the workers are so few?
2. Have we been called? Have we been sent?
3. What should our desire be today?

**MATTHEW 10:7 & 8** - "As you go, preach this message; 'The kingdom of heaven is near.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give."

1. Are we supposed to do these things today? Are we able?
2. How are we to help the "harassed and helpless"? In what kind of spirit are we to minister?
3. What value do we place on our freedom? Are we willing to share it with others?

**1 CORINTHIANS 9:19-23** - Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

1. What does it mean to become "as one under the law" or "as one not under the law"?
2. What am I willing to become in order to be used by God to lead people to Christ?

**JOHN 8:31 & 32** - To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

1. How do we become disciples of Jesus? How can "knowing the truth" set us free?
2. When do we know "the truth that sets us free"?
3. According to these Scriptures, which comes first; obedience, knowledge or freedom?

**JOHN 15:7 & 8** - "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

1. When will "whatever we wish" be given to us? Why?
2. What are the conditions for asking and receiving?
3. How do we bring glory to the Father? What are His promises to us for remaining in His word?

**JOHN 15:15-17** - "I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you to go and bear fruit - fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. This is my command: Love each other."

1. Why does Jesus call us His friends?
2. What is "the master's business"? (John 3:17)
3. Who does the choosing? Why?
4. Are you aware of who you belong to? Why?

**1 PETER 4:7 & 8** - The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear-minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

1. What does self-control and clear-mindedness have to do with prayer?
2. Is love a gift? Can you give it if you don't have it?
3. Why should we "love each other deeply"?