

STEP 6 - WERE ENTIRELY READY TO HAVE GOD REMOVE ALL THESE DEFECTS OF CHARACTER - (Repented - Became Willing to Change)

There is a certain amount of readiness that will have been evidenced in our lives when we reach this Step. However, to be "entirely ready" is a work of the heart and can only be done by God; Ezekiel 36:27 says, "I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees."

Once we have "made the decision to turn from the things of the past", have "examined ourselves" and have "confessed our sins"; God is committed to providing us with the "entire readiness" spoken of in this Step.

GALATIANS 1:3-5 - Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1. For what purpose did Jesus "give himself up"?
2. What does the Father will for us? How is it accomplished?
3. Do we tend to think more about God and his abilities or, about ourselves and our shortcomings?

HEBREWS 8:10 & 12 - "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the Lord. "I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

1. Why does God "put his laws in our minds" and "write them on our hearts"? (Jer. 17:10)
2. How does God write his laws on our hearts?
3. How does God promise to direct our lives? What does He do regarding our sins?

ACTS 3:19 - Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

1. How does the word "repent" tie in with "were entirely ready"?
2. Do we believe that the Lord wants to refresh us, and that He is able to do it?

JOHN 1:29 - The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

1. Why is Jesus referred to as "the Lamb of God"?
2. What did the Lamb come for?

EPHESIANS 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.

1. What does "redemption through his blood" mean to you?
2. What does "blood" have to do with "redemption"? (HEB. 9:22)
3. What does this Scripture mean to you?

1 JOHN 3:4-6 - Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

1. Will Jesus "take away" the things we are not willing to give over to Him?
2. Do we all continue to sin? If so, what does this Scripture mean to you?

1 JOHN 3:9 & 10 - No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; neither is anyone who does not love his brother.

1. Does this mean that the children of God will become "entirely ready" and that the children of the devil won't?
2. How do we know that we are "children of God"?
3. Give an example of how your ability to love your brothers has grown.

EPHESIANS 2:3-5 - All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions - It is by grace you have been saved.

1. Does God automatically change our old desires or do we need to "turn away" from them?
2. Can we identify ourselves as having been "objects of wrath"? How were we saved?
3. As we release our defects to Christ, do we become more alive in him?

1 PETER 2:24 - He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. (Emotionally, Spiritually and Physically)

1. Is there any sin, that we might harbor, that Jesus didn't bear on the cross?
2. How do we receive the healing accomplished at the cross?
3. To what are we personally to die? What does His healing mean to you?

ROMANS 12:1 & 2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - His good, pleasing and perfect will.

1. How do we go about "offering our bodies as living sacrifices"?
2. What must we do in order to know what God's will is for us?
3. When we honestly take this Step, are we "offering our bodies as living sacrifices"?

EPHESIANS 4:31 & 32 - Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

1. How does being "entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character" apply to these Scriptures?
2. Are we "entirely ready" to not only have these defects removed, but the "root causes" as well?

2 TIMOTHY 2:15 - Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

1. Do we have to be perfect to be "worthy" of God's approval?
2. Are we "doing our best" to apply the Steps and Scriptures to our lives?

HEBREWS 4:13-16 - Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

1. How is Christ able to appreciate the difficulties we encounter "living according to" God's will and "turning away from" the world?
2. Do we understand that, even though some areas in our lives still need to be transformed, we can still approach the throne of grace with confidence?

REMEMBER - IT "IS POSSIBLE" TO LIVE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE!