

# 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (AMP) 24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but [only] one receives the prize? So run [your race] that you may lay hold [of the prize] and make it yours. 25 Now every athlete who goes into training conducts himself temperately and restricts himself in all things. They do it to win a wreath that will soon wither, but we [do it to receive a crown of eternal blessedness] that cannot wither.

26 Therefore I do not run uncertainly (without definite aim). I do not box like one beating the air and striking without an adversary. 27 But [like a boxer] I buffet my body [handle it roughly, discipline it by hardships] and subdue it, for fear that after proclaiming to others the Gospel and things pertaining to it, I myself should become unfit [not stand the test, be unapproved and rejected as a counterfeit].

1 Corinthians 9:27 (KJV)

27 But I keep under my body and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

## 1 John 1:5-6 (NIV)

5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. 6 If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.

# 1 John 2:1-6 (NIV)

1 My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. 2 He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

3 We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. 4 The man who says, I know him, but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: 6 Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

- 1 John 3:2-10 (NIV)
- 2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 3 Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

4 Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. 5 But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. 6 No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

7 Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. 8 He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

9No 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. 10This 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; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.

**Foundation - Includes: Our Beliefs / Identity** 

(Hebrews 6; John 14, 16; Ephesians 1 & 2)

Foundation of the 5-Fold. (Eph. 2:19-22)

We're not going to spend much time talking about this, but to summarize it by saying: without church (5-fold) we will remain immature - therefore out of balance.

Ephesians 4:11-16 (NKJV)

11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

#### Personal growth in character.

- One of the biggest things that takes people out of ministry (talking about you - the non-full time people)
  - > Is the lack of: growth in personal character. (Not a lack of flowing in the gifts....

#### **Even just Basic Morals:**

• Honesty, Truthful, Non-Judgmental of people, Learn to Work & Give - not Steal / use People, Take Responsibility for Yourself (Words, Actions, Etc.),

Lead by serving, Not Competitive, Etc., Etc.

To not have these, is to be out of balance.

Growth in the Fruit of the Spirit.

https://www.facebook.com/share/r/19pNdMTie C/?mibextid=uSdriS

• Learning to be Consistent, Predictable, Reliable, Disciplined, Finish a Job, Be Selfmotivated, Brush your Teeth / use Deodorant / Hygiene, Have Godly Boundaries, Learn how to Apologize, Learn when not to apologize, Keep your Word, Stop Living by Feelings / Emotions, Become Faithful, Lose the Competition and Belittling,

(Basic Maturity Stuff)

To be able to operate in the Gifts, but not have the other things is Out of Balance.

13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head Christ

16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

The 5-Fold: Equip, Mature, Lead, Steward, Promote, Guard, Protect, Activate, Provide Safety & Stability for the Church's Growth, Instruction, An Example, Encouragement

(Eph. 4:11-16; Acts 20:28-31)

Scriptural Characteristics of a Follower / Servant.

'To be a Follower / Servant'

• This is the Beginning of our Submission / Surrender.

#### **Matthew 16:24-27 (NKJV)**

24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 25 For whoever desires to save his life ("psuche") will lose it, but whoever loses his life ("psuche") for My sake will find it. 26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul ("psuche")? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul ("psuche")? 27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.

## **Matthew 8:19-20 (NIV)**

[19] Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."

[20] Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

#### Matthew 8:20 (TPT)

20 Jesus replied, Foxes have dens, birds have nests, but the Son of Man has <u>no true home in this world</u>.

#### Mark 1:42-45 (NKJV)

42 As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed. 43 And He strictly warned him and sent him away at once, 44 and said to him, See that you say nothing to anyone; but go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing those things which Moses commanded, as a testimony to them. 45 However, he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the matter, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter the city, but was outside in deserted places; and they came to Him from every direction.

**Matthew 8:21-22 (NIV)** 

[21] Another disciple said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

[22] But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

#### **Principles**

You will be asked to break all religious / church / family tradition.

You will be asked to do something that will make your family / others angry.

He will test you on who's first: him or family.

Luke 9:61-62 (NIV)

[61] Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-by to my family."

[62] Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

John 6:2 (NKJV)

2 Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased.

John 6:25-30 (NKJV)

25 And when they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, Rabbi, when did You come here? 26 Jesus answered them and said, Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. 27 Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.

28 Then they said to Him, What shall we do, that we may work the works of God? 29 Jesus answered and said to them, This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent. 30 Therefore they said to Him, What sign will You perform then, that we may see it and believe You? What work will You do?

#### **Matthew 4:18-22 (NKJV)**

18 And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. 19 Then He said to them, Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men. 20 They immediately left their nets and followed Him. 21 Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, 22 and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

## Mark 10:17-31 (NKJV)

17 Now as He was going out on the road, one came running, knelt before Him, and asked Him, Good Teacher, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? 18 So Jesus said to him, Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. 19 You know the commandments: Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and your mother.

20 And he answered and said to Him, Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth. 21 Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me. 22 But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

23 Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! 24 And the disciples were astonished at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God!

25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God. 26 And they were greatly astonished, saying among themselves, Who then can be saved? 27 But Jesus looked at them and said, With men *it is* impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible. 28 Then Peter began to say to Him, See, we have left all and followed You.

29 So Jesus answered and said, Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's, 30 who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions and in the age to come, eternal life. 31 But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

John 21:18-23 (NKJV)

18 Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish. 19 This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, Follow Me.

20 Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, Lord, who is the one who betrays You? 21 Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, But Lord, what about this man? 22 Jesus said to him, If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow me. 23 Then this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, If I will that he remain will I came, what is that you?

# 1 Timothy 6:9-12 (KJV)

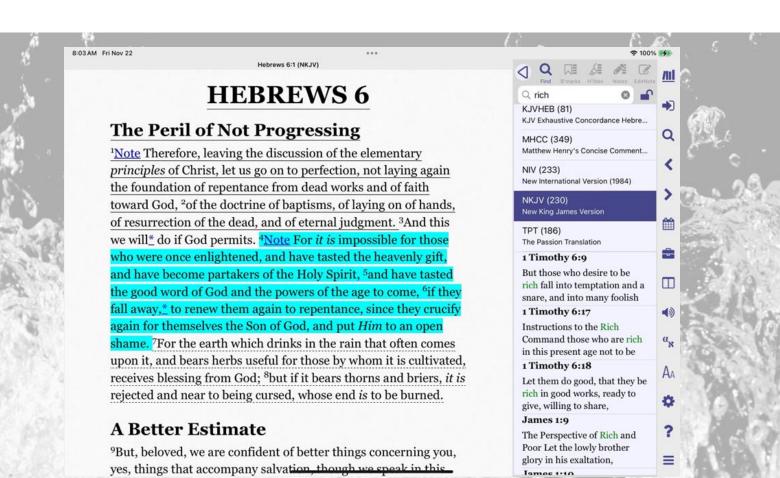
[9] But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

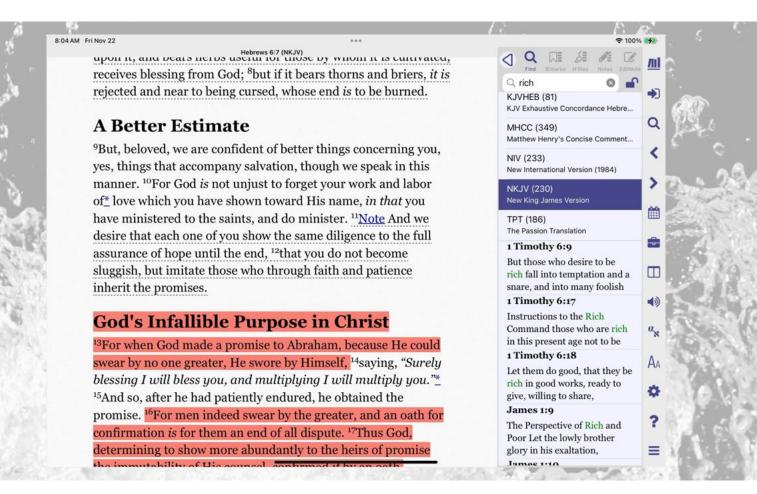
[10] For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

- [11] But thou, O man of God, <u>flee these things;</u> and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.
- [12] Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.
- Flee: trying to be rich (What is America....??)
- Follow: .....

## 2 Timothy 2:20-22 (KJV)

- [20] But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.
- [21] If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.
- [22] Flee also youthful lusts: <u>but follow</u> <u>righteousness</u>, <u>faith</u>, <u>charity</u>, <u>peace</u>, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.





# **Hebrews 6:11-12 (KJV)**

[11] And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:

[12] That ye be not slothful, but <u>followers of</u> them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

**Hebrews 12:14 (KJV)** 

[14] Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

#### Hebrews 13:7 (KJV)

[7] Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

## 1 Peter 2:18-23 (NIV)

[18] Slaves, submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. [19] For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. [20] But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.

- [21] To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.
- [22] "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."
- [23] When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

# 3 John 11 (KJV)

[11] Beloved, <u>follow not that which is evil, but</u> that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.