

Prayer List

Sierra
Gene
Veda
Judy
The Williams' Family
Ophelia

Services:

Sunday

Bible Class 9:00 a.m.
Assembly 9:50 a.m.
Assembly 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Pinole Tidings

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This Week's Question:

What king of Judah saw the country threatened by the Assyrian army of Sennacherib?

Answer To Last Week's Question:

Shalmaneser - 2 Kings 17:3-6

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Being Spiritual

by H. David Bradford

ARE YOU SPIRITUAL or carnal? It is obvious from reading Galatians 6:1 and 1 Corinthians 3:1-4 that the church had members who were spiritual and members who were carnal. It is also obvious, from direct observation, that many Christians today are so caught up in worldly activities and pursuits that they are no longer spiritual, but carnal. If most of my time and thinking is dominated by television, movies, sports, finances, music, education, exercise, and things of this world, I am not spiritual and will miss out on real life here and eternal life in heaven. Romans 8:6 says, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." Don't let the world rob you of real life, genuine peace, and their joy of being spiritual!

How can I become spiritual? I must begin by realizing that there is a war going on inside of me between the flesh and the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-26). I must then determine that the Spirit is going to win that war as I let the dominant influence on my mind and life become the Spirit of God working in me through the word of God. As I begin to feed the Spirit and starve the flesh, it is exciting to see the Spirit's influence growing stronger and stronger and that of the flesh growing weaker and weaker. Romans 8 powerfully teaches me that I must walk after the Spirit, mind the things of the Spirit, through the Spirit kill off the

deeds of the body and be led by the Spirit of God to truly be a child of God and have life! There is no greater plan for being spiritual than that given by God in this great chapter. Isn't it great to know that we can become spiritual by letting God's Spirit, through His word, change our minds, our actions, and lead us on to higher ground?

How would you recognize someone who is spiritual? A person's spirituality is not evidenced by appearance and possessions, but by what they are and do! Being spiritual is ...

- Taking time each day to read, study and meditate upon God's word in which you delight! (Psalm 1).
- Praying with your children.
- Praying with your wife.
- Praying when no one else is around except you and your God.
- Praying always ... (Ephesians 6:18).
- Singing with grace in your heart to the Lord at assemblies and from day to day because you worship and adore Him.
- Living in awe of your great God.
- Honoring the Almighty.
- Loving Him with all of your heart, soul, mind and strength.
- Inviting people over to your house just to sing songs of praise unto the Lord.
- Having your affections set on things above.
- Having your treasure and, therefore, your heart in heaven, not on earth.
- Being conformed to the image of God's Son.
- Remembering your Creator and being mindful of Him in all you do.
- Striving to please Jesus Christ in all you do.
- Honoring, loving and influencing your family for God.
- Being kind to young and old alike.
- Hating sin and loving righteousness.
- Being like Jesus and not being ashamed of it.
- Realizing and admitting I am wrong, I have sinned, and asking God and others to forgive me.

- Enjoying the fabulous fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control.
- Restoring someone who's overtaken in sin in a spirit of meekness, all the while considering myself, lest I also be tempted.
- Avoiding the consequences of sin and the way of transgressors, which is hard.
- Loving the Lord so much you can rejoice when you're persecuted for His sake.
- Having brothers and sisters you love so much you can rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep.
- Being unselfish enough to help someone in need.
- Having active compassion on sick folks, fatherless, widows and all mankind.
- Being kind, tenderhearted and forgiving others like God who, for Christ's sake, has forgiven you.
- Trusting in God and doing what's right.
- Obeying from your heart the doctrine of Christ.
- Having manifold more in this time and in the world to come life everlasting.
- Facing death with the trust that you're going to be with the Lord who has loved you and carried you through life.
- Living in hope of the resurrection, the coming of your Lord and celebrating the victory He's brought you forever and ever.

Why should we be spiritual? Galatians 6:7-8 says it best: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

The choice is yours!

The consequences eternal!

Let's be spiritual!