**WELCOME TO**

**DISCOVERING SPIRITUAL MATURITY P.H.A.S.E. 2**

We're glad you signed up! This class is the second of Lighthouse Church of Independence’s four basic classes. Since these classes build on each other, you encourage you to first attend Discovering Church Membership (P.H.A.S.E. 1) before taking this class.

***Take The Next Step***

***love, grow, serve***

***It’s Easy as 1-2-3***

**Step 1- LOVE**

**Love God- Through Sunday 11:00am Worship Service**

**Step 2-GROW**

**Grow Through -Growth Classes and Small Groups**

**1st Base-Complete Discovering Membership Class**

**2nd Base- Enroll in Exploring God’s Word Course**

**3rd Base- Discovering Growth Class**

**Home Plate- Grow in a Small Group**

**Step 3-Serve**

**Serve on a Ministry Team**

THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLASS:

" ... that you may **become mature** Christians and may fulfill God's will for you." Colossians 4:12b (Ph)

"We are not meant to remain as children ... but to grow up in every way into Christ..." Ephesians 4:14-15 (Ph)

THE FOCUS OF THIS CLASS:

We will focus on the **Five Basic Habits** that every Christian needs to develop in order to grow to spiritual maturity. This class will:

 Equip you with the **skills** you need to begin these habits

 Explain the **tools** you need to continue these habits.

**WHAT IS "SPIRITUAL MATURITY"?**

"...In the unity of common faith, and knowledge of the Son of God, we arrive at real maturity - the measure of development which is meant by 'the fullness of Christ.'" Ephesians 4:13(Ph)

 **Spiritual Maturity is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

"For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to him ... **should become like his Son...**." Romans 8:29(LB)

**FACTS ABOUT SPIRITUAL MATURITY**

**1. IT'S NOT AUTOMATIC**

"You have been Christians for a long time now, and you ought to be teaching others, but instead ... you need someone to teach you ... When a person is still living on milk, it shows he isn't very far along in the Christian life ... He's still a baby Christian!" Hebrews 5:12-13 (LB)

**2. IT IS A PROCESS**

**"Learn** to be mature." Proverbs 8:5 (GN)

"**Continue to grow** in the grace and knowledge of our savior Jesus Christ."

2 Peter 3:18 (GN)

**3. IT TAKES DISCIPLINE**

"Take **the time and the trouble** to keep yourself spiritually fit."
 1Timothy 4:7b (Ph)

**"Discipline** yourself for the purpose of godliness."(NASB)

**UNDERSTANDING DISCIPLESHIP**

**1. Mature believers are called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2. I cannot be a disciple without being \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**3. The more disciplined I become \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**4. The mark of a disciple is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

(Jesus) "Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:27

**5. How often am I to do this? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

(Jesus) "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross **daily,** and follow me."Luke 9:23

**6. What is involved in "cross bearing"? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to give**

 **Christ first place in my life!**

**FIVE HABITS OF A DISCIPLE**

**HOW CAN I BECOME A DISCIPLE? Develop\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

"... You have **put off the old self** with its **HABITS**, and have put on the new self ... which God is continually renewing in his own image, to bring you to a full knowledge of himself." Colossians 3:9-10

**1. TIME WITH GOD'S WORD**

"If you **continue in my Word**, then you are my disciples indeed. And you will know the truth and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32

**2. PRAYER**

"If you remain in me, and my words remain in you, then you will **ask for anything you wish**, and you shall have it ... in this way you become my disciples." John 15:7-8 (GN)

**3. STEWARDSHIP**

"None of you can be my disciple unless **he gives up all of his possessions.**" Luke 14:33 (JB)

"The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always **put God first** in your lives." Deuteronomy 14:23 (LB)

**4. HOLINESS**

…but as He who called you **is holy**, you also **be holy in all your conduct**, because it is written, "**Be holy, for I am holy**." 1 Peter 1:15-16 (NKJ)

And do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Romans 12:2 (NKJ)

**5. FELLOWSHIP**

"Love each other just as much as I love you. Your **strong love for each other** will prove to the world that you are my disciples." John 13:34-35 (LB)

**THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS**

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**DEFINITIONS OF "HABIT": (Webster's II Dictionary)**

1. "A continual, often unconscious inclination to do a certain activity, acquired through frequent repetition."
2. “An established disposition of the character.”

 "Sow a thought, reap an act.

 Sow an act, reap a habit.

 Sow a habit, reap a character.

 Sow a character, reap a destiny."

1. "A customary practice"

**CLASS OUTLINE**

 **SESSION ONE:**

 **· Introduction: Spiritual Maturity and Habits**

 **SESSION TWO:**

 **· The Habit of Bible Reading: Understanding God**

 **SESSION THREE:**

**· The Habit of Prayer: Talking with God**

 **SESSION FOUR:**

 **· The Habit of Stewardship: Giving Back to God**

 **SESSION FIVE:**

 **· The Habit of Holiness: Separation Unto God**

 **SESSION SIX:**

 **· The Habit of Fellowship: Enjoying God's Family**

 **SESSION SEVEN:**

 **· How To Start And Maintain Good Habits**

**THE GOAL OF THIS CLASS**

**That I will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the habits necessary for spiritual maturity.**

"In the past you voluntarily gave your bodies to the service of vice and ... the purposes of evil. So now give yourselves to the service of righteousness - for the purpose of becoming truly good." Romans 6:19 (Ph)

SIGN - IN SHEET (Please Print Clearly)

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