



Foundations of Assurance – Lesson #1

Introduction

A. The Principles of Spiritual Growth

Principle #1: We do not grow spiritually simply for ourselves, but also to better _____ others.

- How is the goal of growth expressed in 2 Peter 1:7-8?
- In 2 Peter 3:18, what areas are we told to grow in?

Principle #2: We need the _____ of God's word to grow.

- From whom do we get the truth which we need?
(John 8:32, John 17:17, Isaiah 55:6-11, 1 Peter 2:2-3)

Principle #3: Without the truth of God's word, the foundations for growth are _____.

- In Matthew 7:15, what does Jesus warn of?
- In 2 Corinthians 11:3-4, what are believers said to be in danger of?
- In 2 Corinthians 11:13-15, who is said to be the source of deceptions?
- In Colossians 2:8, what are the counterfeit ideas said to be missing?

Principle #4: We need to be _____ established with a foundation of sound doctrine in order to be _____ from insufficient ideas and actually _____ spiritually.

- Is sound doctrine emphasized as important in the New Testament?
(Eph. 4:11-15; Col. 2:1-8; 1 Timothy 1:10; 4:6-7; 6:3; 2 Timothy 1:13-14; 4:3-4; Titus 1:9)

B. The Assurance Needed as a Foundation for Spiritual Growth

1. Assurance Defined

English *assurance* – to be sure; to have freedom from _____.

“Basically, assurance is freedom from doubt; a sense of certainty that something is true, will occur, or that all is okay. Synonyms for assurance consist of words like *certainty*, *certitude*, *conviction*. All these nouns ultimately mean freedom from doubt.”

Keathley, J. H. (2002). *ABCs For Christian Growth* (5th ed.). Biblical Studies Foundation. p. 13

Greek *asphaleia* – (1) securely guarded; kept safe.

“we found the prison shut **securely**” (Acts 5:23)

(2) _____; truth.

“that you may know the **certainty** of those things in which you were instructed” (Luke 1:4)

2. Two Types of Evidence

1) _____ – that which can be tested and repeated under scientific controls.

- Truths about God are not typically proven with scientific evidence.

2) _____ - _____ – that which is shown to be beyond a reasonable doubt based on oral and written testimony and based on other exhibits like photographs, archeological findings, and corroborated accounts of history.

- Truths about God can be shown to be true based on legal-historical evidence.
- The Bible is a written testimony from God, which is the source of our assurance with regard to spiritual truth.

3. Foundations of Assurance

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|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) Introduction | 5) God’s Daily Provision |
| 2) The Gospel | 6) God’s Provision for Sin |
| 3) Salvation | 7) God’s Guidance |
| 4) Eternal Security | 8) Eternal Rewards |