

## I. Opening Scripture

**Hebrews 5:12-13 (NKJV)** – <sup>12</sup>For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. <sup>13</sup>For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe.

**Hebrews 5:12-13 (JBP)** – <sup>12</sup>At a time when you should be teaching others, you need teachers yourselves to repeat to you the ABC of God’s Revelation to men. You have become people who need a milk diet and cannot face solid food! <sup>13</sup>For anyone who continues to live on “milk” is obviously immature—he simply has not grown up. “Solid food” is only for the adult, that is, for the man who has developed by experience his power to discriminate between what is good and bad for him

**A. Maturity is becoming skillful at spiritual things.**

**B. Unskillful = inexperienced = unlearned – undeveloped**

**C. Skillful is experienced – developed – He hath no experience**

**NOTES: Maturity and growth isn’t automatic.**

*To become skillful at spiritual things we must cooperate through participation in the process.*

*Salvation is freely given – discipleship is costly!*

## II. Our Responsibilities

**Things the Bible says we are responsible for.**

**A. Stir Yourself**

**2 Timothy 1:6-7 (NKJV)** – <sup>6</sup>Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. <sup>7</sup>For God has not

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*given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*

Stir = to kindle up – to inflame one’s mind, strength or zeal.

**NOTE: Paul told Timothy to stir himself up – not to depend upon him to do the stirring.**

**David encouraged himself.**

### B. Edify Yourself

**1 Corinthians 14:4 (NKJV)** – He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

#### 1. Edify – to build a house – to build up – to restore – to repair

**Jude 1:20-21 (NKJV)** – <sup>20</sup>*But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, <sup>21</sup>keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.*

2. Praying in the Spirit edifies – builds up – repairs, restores

3. *K.Hagin – It’s like charging a battery!*

**Note: We must take responsibility to cooperate with the process of edifying or building ourselves up through praying in the Spirit.**

### C. Put on the New Self

1. **Colossians 3:9-10 (NKJV)** – <sup>9</sup>*Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, <sup>10</sup>and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,*

2. **Ephesians 4:23-24 (NKJV)** – <sup>23</sup>*and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, <sup>24</sup>and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.*

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**NOTE: Notice – the instruction is that you put on the new man. Putting on the new man requires that you renew your mind.**

**Romans 12:1-2 (NKJV)** – <sup>1</sup>I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup>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.

### D. Put on the Whole Armor of God

**Ephesians 6:10-17 (NKJV)** – <sup>10</sup>Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup>and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; <sup>16</sup>above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. <sup>17</sup>And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

**NOTE: God has made the armor available to us – however, is our responsibility to put it on.**

### E. Immerse yourself in the Word.

**Colossians 3:16 (NKJV)** – Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

**Colossians 3:16 (AMP)** – Let the [spoken] word of Christ have its home within you [dwelling in your heart and mind—permeating every aspect

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*of your being] as you teach [spiritual things] and admonish and train one another with all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

**John 15:7 (NKJV)** – *If you abide in Me, and **My words abide in you**, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.*

**1 Timothy 4:6 (NKJV)** – *If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.*

**1 Timothy 4:6 (AMP)** – *If you point out these instructions to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, constantly nourished [through study] on the words of the faith and of the good [Christian] doctrine which you have closely followed.*

**2 Timothy 3:14-17 (NKJV)** – <sup>14</sup>*But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them,* <sup>15</sup>*and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.* <sup>16</sup>*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,* <sup>17</sup>***that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work***

**NOTE:** The only way that we become thoroughly equipped and developed in spiritual things is through the Word of God.