## Personal Spiritual Development 9

## Disciples with Confidence

Week Nine: Daily Scripture Reading

Monday 2 Corinthians 2:12-17
Tuesday 2 Corinthians 3:1-6
Wednesday 2 Corinthians 4:1-6
Thursday 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10
Friday 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Saturday Philippians 1:12-26
Sunday 1 John 1:7-2:3

God desires ALL to be saved and those who are saved to have confidence in their relationship with HIM. He desires none to "perish" (2 Peter 3:9) By HIS guidance John wrote 1 John to give confidence to those who had made a commitment to God (1 John 5:11-13). When a Christian struggles with his convictions about his own "salvation" he has a greatly diminished ability to speak for Christ in a shattered world full of sin. A confident walk with God gives us the courage to live a cleaner wholesome life that in turn results in greater joy, peace and a closer communication with God. Romans 8 speaks to the power of a Christian when he is in harmony with the Holy Spirit of God. God's spirit communicates a spirit of confidence and power and not of defeat and fear. 2 Corinthians lays down great principles of how we can develop confidence for Christs influence within us. As we encounter hurdles in life and are able to look back and see how GOD helped us over them, we gain more and more confidence in our abilities for the future. As followers of Christ we are called to daily service. God is in control leading us to a deeper level of maturity, often through the avenue of service.

Questions to consider as you read each daily scripture reading.

- 1. What does the providence of God mean in your life?
- 2. What causes many good Christians to live in doubt about their relationship with God?
- 3. How can we know of Gods involvement in the daily affairs of our life?
- 4. Write down some of the ways that you could "practice the presence" of GOD in your life.
- 5. Recall and write down of a time in your life when you felt all alone and now looking back you can clearly see the hand of GOD guiding and protecting you at that time.
- 6. Is it possible to believe that we can fall from God's grace and not believe we are likely to fall? Where is there a balance on this subject? How do you explain it?