

SPIRITUAL CHRISTIANITY

Starting or Establishing a Spiritual Relationship in 5 Easy Steps

By Branch Isole

I'd like to thank you for tuning into my recent guest spot on one of your favorite podcasts. It's always a pleasure to share information with listeners who are seeking ways to improve their lives and relationships.

Life is about relationships. Relationships are about effective communication for growth and balance. Growth is accomplished when we learn to respond differently from our 'old pattern' ways. Balance is the stability that grounds and connects the four cornerstones of who we are in mind, body, soul, and spirit.

If the podcast episode you heard was one of my **Spiritual Christianity** topics, here are the steps of starting and experiencing a spiritual relationship that were discussed.

We live in a physical world. It's therefore easy to acknowledge and embrace the physical. That said, we may or may not be as aware of the spiritual. The universe is a combination of physical and spiritual realms. As part of the universe, we are also a combination of both the physical and spiritual.

In Jn 4:24 the Bible explains that "God" is Spirit. As our creator, each of us are therefore spiritual as well. Because we are spiritually of and from God, we innately understand truth. However, because we are also physical, living in a physical world, our spirit living in our soul is what I call 'inactive'. That means it's there and because it is our connection to the source of universal truth we automatically come to know and understand the concept of 'right and wrong'.

Every society operates on a system of legal laws, codes, and codices. Legal systems within each society agree to determine, distribute, and dictate what is appropriate behavior and what is not. Or, as we learn from an early age, 'right from wrong'. This concept is most often reinforced and permeated by its action's interpretation, 'reward and punishment'.

As our focus is on self, 'right vs. wrong' becomes the benchmark of our behavior as it relates to reward or punishment. This is the realm that an 'inactive' spirit operates within. We have a choice. We try to decide whether the consequence of that choice will produce a reward or a punishment. Because we live 'in the world' we often respond in the world's ways. It's these ways of the world that tie us to stress, struggle and conflict in our daily lives. It's this reason that we often tend to accept and embrace life's difficulties.

Thinking that's all there is, we believe that's all there is. The question becomes, can we reach outside of ourselves to embrace a different response? And if so, how? We can accomplish this by 'activating' our inactive spirit. But again, how? It's really very easy.

Think of God as a loving parent. One who only wants what's best for you. This is God's true nature and character. God has given each of us 'free will' to determine our life by choices and responses.

He will never *require* we recognize Him as God or engage us. To initiate and have a relationship with God must be a voluntary decision and action on our part. Simply stated, we must ask God to come into our life. We do this by inviting Jesus Christ's active spirit to be with our inactive spirit.

These five (5) easy steps to establish a spiritual relationship with God, through Jesus Christ are explained in the Bible as:

1. Invite Jesus' spirit to be one with ours. (Matthew 7:7-8)
2. Jesus then sends His Spirit (the same holy Spirit that is God) to live and dwell with our spirit. This action of sending and receiving His Spirit "activates" our previously inactive spirit. Not only do we know right from wrong (as before) now we also know and recognize "truth" in our life and in our world. This is explained in John 16:13.
3. Upon receiving God's Spirit through Jesus Christ, we can now depend on His spiritual presence within our spirit to guide, advise, and counsel us as to the best and most appropriate behavior or response to any situation we may find ourselves in. This is explained in John 14:16, and 14:26.
4. Having God's Spirit living with your spirit you have become a child of God. For this reason, you are given the right, privilege, and ability to call upon or talk with Jesus anytime you want. Just as a child would talk with a loving parent. Ask all the questions you want. He will always answer because His Spirit now lives with yours.
5. Because you have surrendered your inactive spirit to His active spirit by recognizing Jesus for who He is (John 14:6), you will now be able to read and understand the way to spiritual salvation (Romans 10:9-10,13,17).

There you have it. Five easy steps on the spiritual walk/path if you want to start, establish, or enjoy a spiritual relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

To learn more, you're invited to read my
SPIRITUAL SERIES books
at www.branchisole.com