



START GROWING SPIRITUALLY

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THE KEY TO SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND HEALTH:

Not _____ment but _____ment

Happy is the man that **feareth always**... Pr 28:14a KJV

The **fear of the LORD** leads to life; then one **rests content**, untouched by trouble. Pr 19:23 NIV

The **fear of the Lord** is a **life-giving fountain**... Pr 14:27

THE RIDDLE OF THE FEAR OF GOD

We are told to “fear God” _____ times in the Bible!

Yet God tells people to “fear not” when He appears (Gen. 15:1; 26:24; Joshua 8:1; Judges 6:23; Luke 2:10; Rev. 1:17, & more)

SO WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO “FEAR THE LORD”?

1. It's about living in _____

Blessed is the one who **fears the LORD** always, but whoever **hardens his heart** will fall into calamity. Pr 28:14 ESV

Blessed is the one who always **trembles before God**, but whoever **hardens their heart** falls into trouble. Pr 28:14 NIV (See Ecc 5:1-3)

Then why use the word “fear”?

2. It's about choosing a _____

The **fear of the LORD** is the **beginning** of **wisdom**, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. Pr 9:10 ESV

The **fear of the LORD** is the **beginning** of **knowledge**, but fools despise wisdom and instruction. Pr 1:7

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Pr 3:5,6 NIV

3. It's about being _____ at His _____

Who can say, “I have kept my heart pure; I am clean and without sin”? Pr 20:9 NIV

By **steadfast love** and **faithfulness** iniquity is atoned for, and by **the fear of the LORD** one turns away from evil. Pr 16:6 ESV

“...the more we experience God's grace and forgiveness, the more we experience a trembling awe and wonder before the greatness of all that he is and has done for us.” – Tim Keller

KEY: _____ TO HAVE THIS PERSPECTIVE!

Don't envy sinners, but **always continue to fear the LORD**. Pr 23:17 NLT