

METRICS OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Servants Retreat - 2012



1. Spiritual practices ⁽¹⁾

- ▣ The list includes my daily prayers, my readings, fastings, confessions, etc.
- ▣ Growth is in quantity and quality.
- ▣ The quality refers to how much I find rest in them, long for, and focus on each.



1. Spiritual practices ⁽²⁾

- ▣ The obstacles to grow in these practices:
 - Wrong sense of contentment
 - Being deceived by the service itself



2. Understanding the value of things

- ▣ The honor and the reward of the service
- ▣ The value of the human soul
- ▣ The value of fellowship
- ▣ How I typically trade:
 - My opinion or keeping the peace?
 - The service or an extra hour of rest?



3. The unity of heart

- ▣ To be consistent in my home, my work place, and my service
- ▣ Moving away from duality and from wearing masks



4. Knowing myself and understanding others

Knowing myself

Grieve in my heart

Humbling myself before God

Pardoning others' faults

Growing in mercy



5. Relationships

- ▣ How I think of my coordinator, my fellow servant, and those whom I serve?

“He must increase, but I must decrease”

John 3:30



6. Accepting the Yoke

- ▣ Service is not to be left up to my circumstances or my convenience
- ▣ Expecting challenges and difficulties
- ▣ The cost of being an example and avoiding offense: “It is good neither to eat meat nor drink wine nor do anything by which your brother stumbles or is offended or is made weak” **Romans 14:21**



7. My joy in the service

- ▣ How do I feel on Sunday morning?
- ▣ What makes me happy? Is it the number of those attending, in receiving recognition, or in the repentance of those being served?

“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth” **3 John 1:4**



8. My commitment in the service

- ▣ Understanding my role and my responsibilities
- ▣ Feeding the Lord's lambs
- ▣ Willingness to obey even when not watched



9. Love for God and for others

- ▣ Feeling proud and content that God is my share, my refuge, my Father and the One I work with
- ▣ Love for His children and seeing the image of God in them

