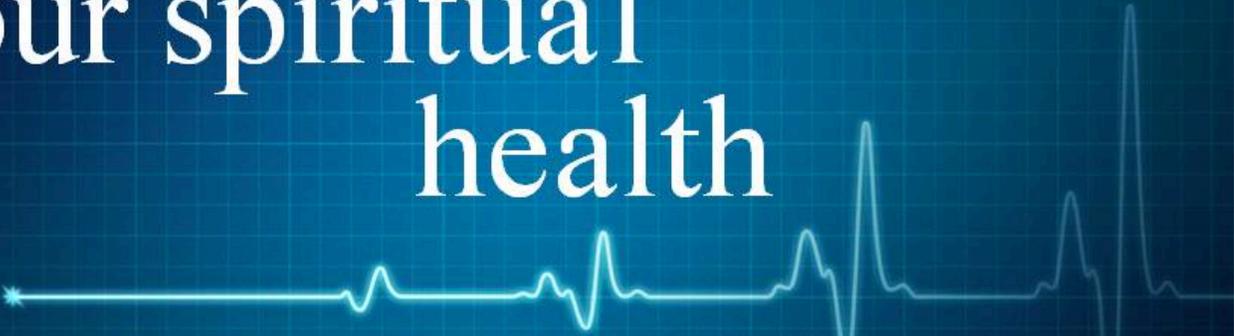


10 questions to diagnose your spiritual health



Are you lead by Bible?

Recap:

- Our aim is spiritual diagnosis, to see how spiritually healthy we are, to see what areas need attention in our lives.
 - So, just as a doctor asks questions to help diagnose physical health, we are asking questions to diagnose our spiritual health.
- Do you remember question 1?
 - Do you thirst for God?
 - How often do you experience a longing for God? Do you want to know Him more?

Chapter 2: Are You Governed Increasingly by God's Word?

- Recently a baseball card sold for over 2 million dollars. Why do you think it's worth so much?
 - A small piece of paper with a picture of a player and stats is worth over 2 mill to someone
 - Why pay so much? Because the buyer thinks it holds great value, importance, and worth
 - The value isn't in the materials; it is in what they represent – same with paper money
- I wonder if we have the same valuation of the Bible
 - Is it just a book, a task to read – or is it worth more than millions to us?
 - *Ps 119:72, "The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold & silver pieces."*

- Imagine what you could do with millions of dollars? Would it change your life?
- Rhetorical Question: Does God's Word change your life?
- Our desire to be governed by God's Word is a huge indicator of our spiritual health
 - Do you know what "governed" means?
 - Governed = to control, direct, or strongly influence the actions and conduct
- Barna research states that only 18 percent of professing Christians read the Bible every day and 23 percent don't read it at all
 - Why do you think this is true?
- What do you think we can do to increase the Bible's effect on our lives?
- Deepen your Desire
 - How can we deepen our desire for God's Word?
 - Remind ourselves of its benefits – *Psalm 19:7-11*
 - Thinking about the goodness of God drives us to know Him more – *Psalm 136*
- Make Time
 - What are some things that people discipline themselves to do every day?
 - Exercise, homework, chores
 - Why? What's the pay off?
 - Better health, grades, home, etc.
 - Discipline ourselves to read God's Word everyday
 - Be consistent: find a time and stick with it
 - Just as you get hungry around the same time everyday because that's when you eat, your appetite can grow for God's Word
- Put it into Action
 - In your reading, identify at least one thing you can put into action and do it.
 - *James 1:22-25* – be doers of the word
 - How is it possible for someone to look at themselves in a mirror and then turn away and forget what they saw?
 - They were not really paying attention.
 - They were not looking to remember.
 - In the same way, it's not enough to just read the Bible, we must read intently, as to remember, as to act upon it.
 - Just owning a treadmill doesn't help you lose weight, you have to get on it
- Ask the Question Often
 - The Question is "How does the Bible speak to this?"
 - Train yourself to ask that question often so that it will become second nature
 - If God's Word is not precious to you, it will not be important to your children. It all begins with being dazzled by God – Ted Tripp
 - You may not have children, but you have people that you influence. If they truly see that the Bible is important to you, it will impact them in the same way.