

The Twelve Steps

The Maintenance Steps - Steps 10-12

Dear brothers and sisters,

Praise God, we have come a long way together! It is my hope that you have found a healthier you; stronger, more trusting, able to make better decisions for yourself. It is also my prayer that you have come to know and love your Higher Power, Jesus Christ, the best friend you will ever have. He is also thrilled at the progress you have made through Step Nine, and now entering Step Ten. You and the Lord are going to grow even closer as you mature as a Christian man or woman (child of God). Steps 10, 11 and 12 have been called the "maintenance steps." As they are put into practice, you will feel a strong desire to tell others about how you found peace finally through the One named Jesus Christ. You will want to get to know Him even better for yourself.

In Step 10, you learn to keep short accounts or mini-accounts for each day. It is suggested that you keep a log of each day, so that you can see any patterns that may develop. Also, it is extremely important to put our thoughts down on paper, and talk with God about the day - both the good and the bad, whether we did what He had for us to do or not (there are sins of omission as well as sins of commission). They must be faced and prayed about, so we can get the job done as God leads. May the Lord bless you richly as you seek His will for your life.

In Step 11, we will be developing an even stronger prayer life with the Lord, seeking His will first for our life. In every decision we make and direction we take, we must let God speak to us through His Holy Spirit as we seek Him in prayer and meditation on His word. It is the Holy Spirit who gives us the strength and wisdom we need to live godly in Christ Jesus.

In Step 12, we will find that through the months of reading God's word, we have found some favorite verses, and have memorized some of them. That is really great! The Psalmist said, "Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against Thee." In this phase of our recovery, we need to share and be equipped to share our healing process and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ with a sin-stained world. Dottie and I will work with you individually and corporally so that you will be able to stand firm on who you are in Christ, and be able to share Him effectively with the unsaved of this world. It is, of course, our prayer that our Lord will use you in a mighty way as you dedicate your life to service for the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

It's important that we keep in mind that "soon this life will be past, and only what's done for Christ will last."

In His love and service,

Pastor Tom

Since these steps are "Maintenance Steps" they are for the REST OF YOUR LIFE! Keep this as a reminder to "practice these principles in all your affairs" for the rest of your life.