

A PATHWAY TO CHRISTIAN MATURITY

KNOWLEDGE
(Know)

FACTUAL AND EXPERIENTIAL
SPIRITUAL INFORMATION

FACTUAL
Gained from the Scripture

EXPERIENTIAL
Gained from living in God's world

Journal Question: What does God *teach* me about His character, the human condition, the world system, redemption in Christ and the life of faith (commands, warnings, promises, examples, etc)?

Leads To **Psalm 119:100**
I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts.

ACTION
(Go)

EXTERNAL LIFESTYLE OF
HABITUAL OBEDIENCE

1. Present Body as a Living Sacrifice
2. Personal Holiness
3. Seven-Fold obedience to God's commands:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Worship | 4. Ministry to Believers |
| 2. Spiritual Disciplines | 5. Outreach to Unbelievers |
| 3. Marriage, Family | 6. Stewardship |
| | 7. Work |

Journal Question: Given this new insight, how does God want me to *respond* with *worship* and *obedience* from a renewed heart of *love* and *gratitude*?

Leads To

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Romans 10:17
So faith comes from hearing and hearing through the word of Christ.

FAITH
(Believe)

ASSURANCE OF AND COMMITMENT
TO SPIRITUAL TRUTH

- **Certainty** that specific invisible spiritual realities are true
- **Assurance** that things promised in Scripture will come true
- **Conviction** that each of my sins grieve God and will be judged.
- **Trust** and **Reliance** upon Christ as my All-Sufficient Savior, Refuge, Provider, and Shield
- **Reception** of spiritual guidance and knowledge

Journal Question: In light of what I now *know*, what does this *new truth* require me to *believe*?

Leads To **Ephesians 3:16-17**
... that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

CHARACTER
(Grow)

INTERNAL NATURE
CONFORMED TO CHRIST

VIRTUES
What you are

THOUGHT
What you think about

AFFECTION
What you love/hate

DESIRE
What you seek

EMOTIONS
What you feel

WILL
What you choose/reject

Journal Question: Given this new insight, what does God want *my character* to *become* so it conforms to Christ's?

Sample K-F-C-A Journal Entries

Luke 4:1-13—The Temptation of Jesus

- I. Knowledge—God wants me to see and *know* that the devil seeks to destroy God’s people and thwart God’s plans for redemption and glory through His Son. God also wants me to know that Jesus His Son was tempted by Satan (just like Adam was) and yet He did not give in to that temptation.
- II. Faith—God wants me to *trust* that the word of God and “the Word made flesh” (Jesus) is stronger than sin, temptation and the devil and that Jesus has the wisdom and power to overcome sin in His own life and in mine (cf. Heb. 2:17-18; 4:14-16).
- III. Character—God wants me to *be* like Christ as I face temptation,
 - A. By *thinking* about and meditating upon God’s word before temptations arise.
 - B. By having an *attitude* of humility and dependence upon God (the first temptation Jesus faced).
 - C. By setting my *affections* upon God and worshipping and serving Him rather than myself (the second temptation Jesus faced).
 - D. By being alert against the false ideas of the world (even the twisting of Scripture!) and submitting to God’s will rather than attempting to test/manipulate God for my own gain (the third temptation Jesus faced).
- IV. Action—God wants me to cultivate an attitude of submissive worship at all times. God wants me to memorize and meditate upon His word in order to use it to wage war against every temptation to sin and against every idea raised up against Him (cf. 2 Cor. 10:5).
 - A. I will work on memorizing and meditating upon two verses from Colossians each week.

Luke 8:22-25—Jesus Calms a Storm

- I. Knowledge—God wants me to *know* that the miracles Jesus performed prove that He is more than just a man.
- II. Faith—God wants me to *believe* this miracle was an actual historical event not just words on a page and that Jesus is indeed the Son of God.
- III. Character— God wants me to *fear* Him more than I *fear* my circumstances. God wants me to *choose* to respond in faith rather than in fear when I am faced with situations that are beyond my control.
- IV. Action—Every day I am faced with the same question that the apostles pose in the boat, “Who then is this, that He commands even winds and water, and they obey Him?” God wants me to *worship* His Son Jesus and to live every day in light of my answer to that question.
 - A. When my circumstances begin to create fear or anxiety within me, I must acknowledge and confess to God that I am responding in fear rather than in faith. Then I must choose to worship God and entrust myself and my circumstances into His all-powerful hands.