

Step 7: Grow Up

(How to advance to bigger, better, bolder things)

(SERIES: 12 Steps Up; 07 of 12)

by Dr. David Foster

Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

What does God want for me?

"Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. . . . **LET US LIVE UP TO WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY ATTAINED.**" (Phil 3:13-16)

God wants me to **grow up**.

"Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may **grow up** in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good." (1 Pet 2:2-3)

God wants me to **be teachable**.

"Yet they did not listen or pay attention; they were **stiff-necked** and would not listen or respond to discipline." (Jer 17:23)

God wants me to **think right**.

". . . God opposes **the proud** but gives grace to the humble."
(1 Pet 5:5)

"Your **attitude** should be the kind that was shown us by Jesus Christ, who, though he was God, did not demand and cling to his rights as God, but laid aside his mighty power and glory, taking the disguise of a slave and becoming like men. And he humbled himself." (Phil 2:5-11)

God wants me to **be loving**.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35)

"But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way." (1 Cor 12:31;)

I will gladly and freely . . .

Give God **everything**.

The 6 best reasons I tithe:

1. *It is a seed I sow.*
2. *It is a debt I owe.*
3. *It is an opportunity I take.*
4. *It is an investment I make.*
5. *It is a battle I win.*
6. *It is a teaching I obey*

Recognize God at work **everywhere**.

"Continue to love each other with true brotherly love. Don't forget to be kind to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it!" (Heb 13:1-2)

Obey God's wisdom **every time**.

"To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice." (Prov 21:3)

"Not all who sound religious are really godly people. They may refer to me as 'Lord,' but still won't get to heaven. For the decisive question is whether they **OBEY MY FATHER IN HEAVEN.**" (Mat 7:21)