

2 Peter 1:3-4

Take It on Faith! When Believers Ain't Growin' Spiritually
It Ain't God's Fault?!?

The Ultimate Source of Spiritual Growth in Believers Is God's Gracious Provision in Christ 1:3a

AMAZING FACT Behind Spiritual Growth/Fruit

His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to our living a godly life

1: all believers not just Pastors/Missionaries can and should pursue spiritual maturity.

2: When individual believers find themselves in a spiritual holding pattern or a spiritual stall (think: King David in Jerusalem) the problem resides somewhere in us.

IOWs: a kink in my water hose will prevent H₂O from flowing through it, but the issue isn't with the Water Department of the City of Duncan/David Yeager...it is with me the hose owner/operator.

The Immediate Agency of Spiritual Growth in Believers Is Our Epignosis of God Through His Word 1:3b

ACTIVE MECHANISM of Spiritual Growth/Fruit

The believer living a godly life comes through/by means of the epignosis of God who has called us by his glorious excellence

Gnosis

Factual Knowledge of Biblical/Doctrinal/Moral Facts that Inform Our Mind

Epignosis

Full Heart Knowledge of Those Facts as Transforming Truths/Personal Convictions

The Stable Foundation of Spiritual Growth in Believers Is God's Certain Salvation for Us in Christ 1:4

ACTUAL BASIS of Spiritual Growth-God's faithfulness to His salvation promises in Christ which has made believers...this is the FRUIT of salvation not the ROOT of salvation. It is an EFFECT not a CAUSE (Ephesians 2:8-9.....Ephesians 2:10).

Believers
Are partakers of the divine nature

Believers
Have been: rescued from the core effect of the moral/spiritual corruption of this world

Take This To Heart

Excuses for underachieving spiritually are easy-but they ain't legit!

Believers (who have been supernaturally regenerated-have received the impartation of spiritual life by God's grace through faith in Christ alone) can depend on the fact that the God who saved us will always make available to us everything we need to be and/or to become everything HE wants us to be/become in our CHARACTER.

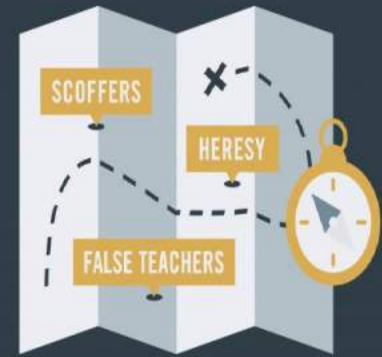
- This is an active pursuit not some kind of passive-automatic pilot.
- It is empowered by the Holy Spirit as believers abide in Christ.
- It is not mere external behavior modification but spiritual transformation from the inside out (which God sees).
- It will be expressed in our choices/behavior (which people see-but note the warning of our Lord in Matthew 6:1).

The process of spiritual growth (analogous to physical growth) demands the intake of nutrition/food (1 Peter 2:1-3; 2 Peter 1:2-4). It is a process-it takes time, it is not a point act. It is a righteous direction of life not the attainment of absolute righteous perfection...and it is for every believer not just for vocational pastors, youth ministers and missionaries.



— GIVING ALL DILIGENCE —

FAITH – VIRTUE – KNOWLEDGE
SELF-CONTROL – PERSEVERANCE – GODLINESS
BROTHERLY KINDNESS – LOVE



2 PETER

Holiness, Heresy and Hope

W A R N I N G







July 17, 2016

**Montrell
Jackson,
BRPD**

**Matthew
Gerald,
BRPD**

**Brad
Garafola,
EBRSO**



Three Things No Christian Father Has Ever Said to His Son

I've noticed your friends seem to have this: "I'm a lot smarter than your parents" kind of an attitude and I tell you right now...

...I really admire that!

While your mom and I are out of town next week, take my credit card just in case...

...you want to max it out to buy anything you want!

Get this straight! No son of mine is going to live under my roof...

...without an earring, so go to the mall and get it over with!

2 Peter

Therefore beloved...be diligent to be found in Him
in peace, spotless and blameless...grow in the grace
and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

HOPE Chapter 3

HERESY Chapter 2

HOLINESS Chapter 1

The Message of 2 Peter

A Christ-Centered **HOPE** Should Motivate
Believers Now to Embrace a Lifestyle of True
HOLINESS and to Avoid the **HERESIES**
(Morally/Doctrinally) of False Teachers.

SGIB

Spiritual Growth

In Believers

2 Peter 1:3-4

The Ultimate Source of **SGIB** is
God's Gracious Provision in Christ 1:3a

The Immediate Agency of **SGIB** is
Our Epignosis of God Through His Word 1:3b

The Stable Foundation of **SGIB** is
God's Certain Salvation for Us in Christ 1:4

2 Peter 1:3-4

The Ultimate Source of **SGIB** is
God's Gracious Provision in Christ 1:3a

AMAZING FACT

God's power provides everything we need...

1: All believers can/should pursue SG

2: When believers stall spiritually we need
to look in the mirror

2 Peter 1:3-4

The Immediate Agency of **SGIB** is
Our Epignosis of God Thru His Word 1:3b

ACTIVE MECHANISM

through/by means of επιγνωσις

Biblical Convictions NOT Just Biblical Consciousness

Gnosis

Awareness of Information

“Knowing” about Flying
From Books/Plane Rides

Biblical Consciousness

Involves the Head

1 Corinthians 8:1

Epignosis

Info Embraced as Truth

“Knowing” about Flying
From Flying Airplanes

Biblical Convictions

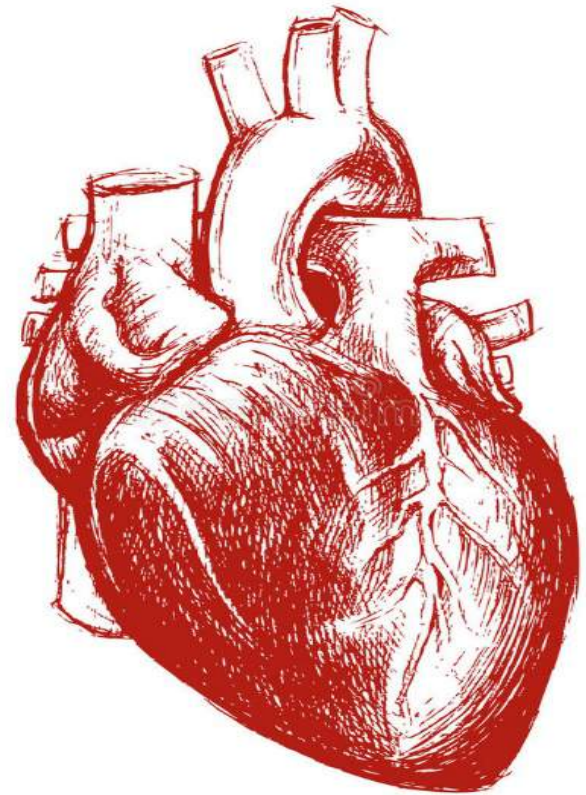
Involves the Heart

Romans 3:20; 10:2

Hebrews 4:12

The Word of God
is alive and powerful...

...and is a critic of
*the thoughts and
the intents of
the heart*

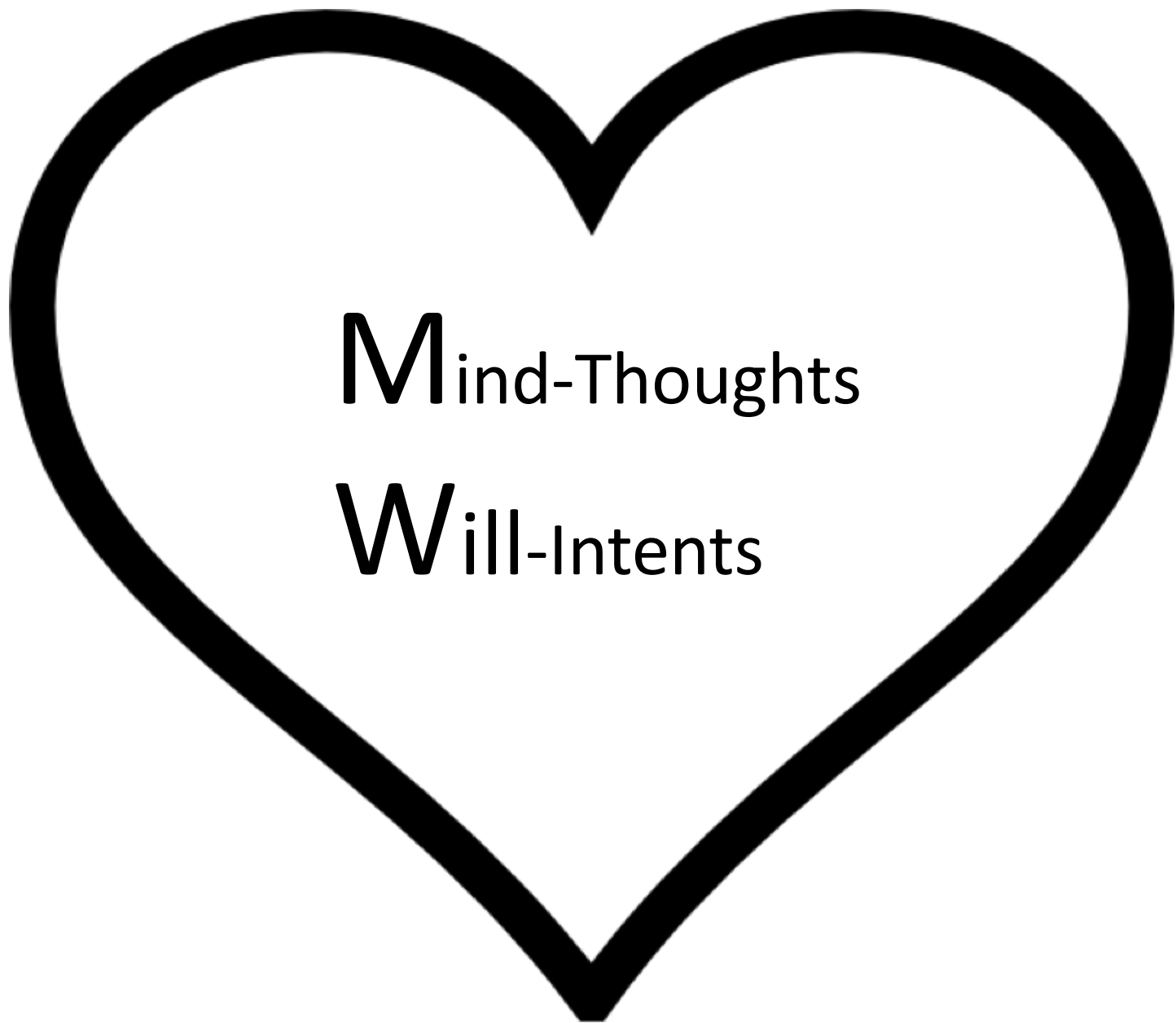


Hebrews 4:12

The Word of God
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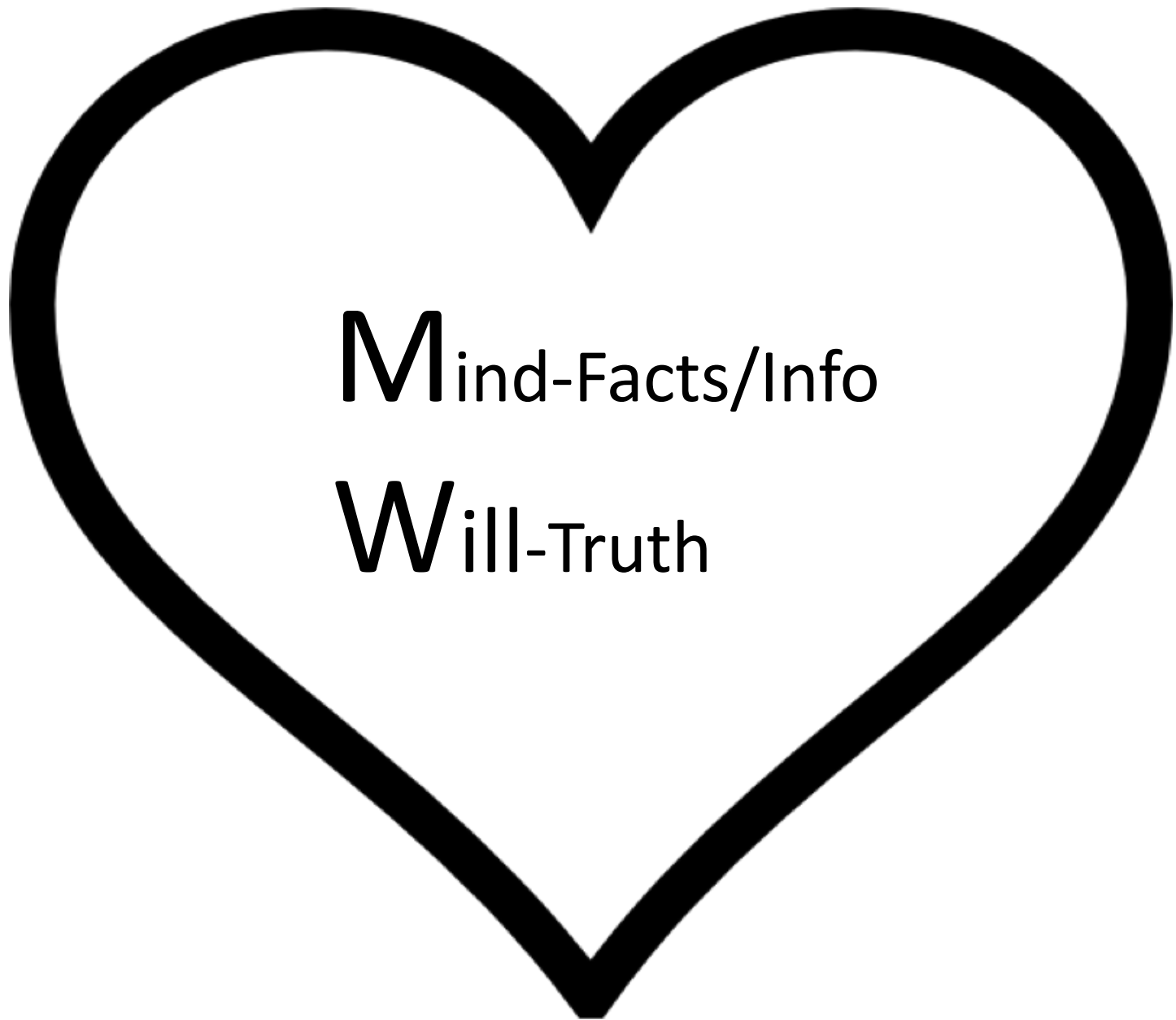
...and is a critic of
*the thoughts and
the intents of
the heart*





Mind-Thoughts

Will-Intent



Mind-Facts/Info

Will-Truth



Mind-Consciousness

Will-Convictions



Mind-Gnosis

Will-Epignosis

Hebrews 4:12

The Word of God
is alive and powerful...

...and is a critic of
*the thoughts and
the intents of
the heart*



Hebrews 4:2

HEARERS: The Exodus Generation

SPEAKERS: Moses and Aaron

The Word they heard did not profit them because
it was not united by faith in those who heard.

2 Peter 1:3-4

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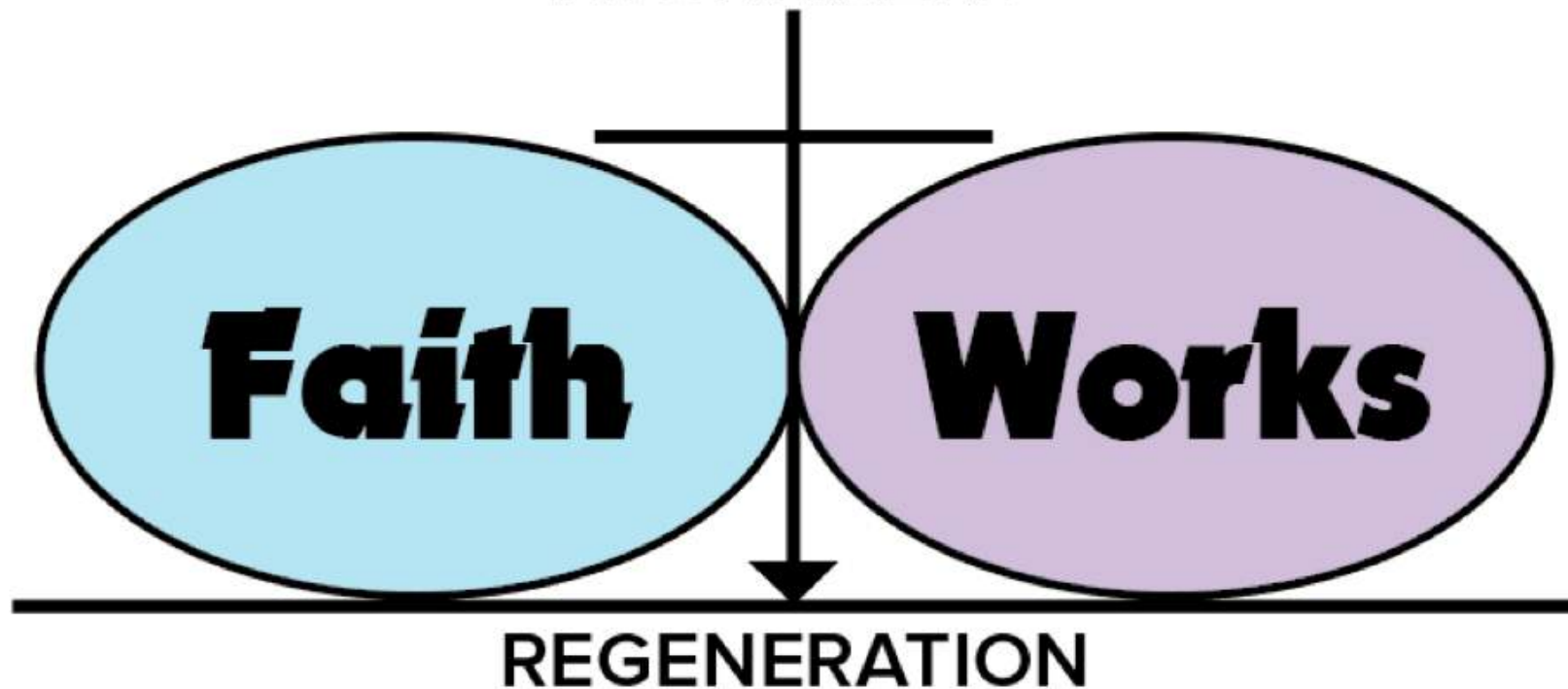
ACTUAL BASIS

God's faithfulness to His salvation promises...

1: Spiritual Growth is the FRUIT Not the ROOT

2: Spiritual Growth is an EFFECT Not the CAUSE

ATONEMENT



Root Cause

Ephesians 2:8-9

*Not by Works
Come to the Light*

► **Fruit Effect**

Ephesians 2:10

*But for Works
Let your Light Shine*

Take This To Heart

SGIB = Spiritual Growth In Believers

- Active Pursuit...Not Automatic Pilot
- Empowered by the Holy Spirit...as We Abide in Christ
- Not External Behavior-Mod...But Internal Transformation
- Expressed in Choices/Behavior...GGWs (Matthew 6:1)

No More
Excuses

What Christ Has Done

Who We Are

What We Must Do

Who Christ Is

What Christ Will Do

Who God Is

What the Bible Is





The Great
Commandment
Love the LORD

The Law of Christ
Love One Another



Because Christ Died FOR Our Sins...
...We Don't Have to Die IN Our Sins

τετελεσται



Κυριος
Lord

Title

Ιησους
Jesus

Name

Χριστος
Christ

Title

corresponds
to the OT Word

יהוה

meaning
"God"

Title: God

corresponds
to the OT Word

ישוע

meaning
"God-Savior"

Human Name:
God-Savior

corresponds
to the OT Word

משיח

meaning
"Savior"

Title: Savior

Lord Jesus Christ = God-Man-Savior