

# How to Grow Spiritually - Part 3

by Roy Daniel

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*This sermon emphasizes the importance of faith and obedience in spiritual growth, highlighting the simplicity of salvation and the abundant life available in Christ.*

**Duration:** 35:19

**Scripture:** Isaiah 53:6, John 7:38, John 10:10, Romans 6:4, 1 Corinthians 2:12, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Galatians 5:1, Ephesians 3:8, Colossians 2:3, 2 Peter 1:3

**Topics:** "Faith and Obedience", "Spiritual Growth"

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## Description

Roy Daniel emphasizes the importance of faith and obedience for spiritual growth, contrasting the misguided pursuits of the Corinthian and Galatian churches. He explains that true spiritual life comes from simply looking to Jesus in faith, rather than seeking complicated rules or experiences. Daniel illustrates that salvation is straightforward and accessible, highlighting the abundant life available through Christ. He encourages believers to recognize the riches they have in Jesus, which are freely given and not earned through works. Ultimately, he calls for a deeper understanding of these spiritual treasures to foster growth and a closer relationship with God.

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## Transcript

Good morning, what a blessed weekend, a lovely time with the Word of God, lovely time speaking to many of you people, meeting old friends, making new friends. Thank you for all your sacrifice and loveliness towards us. In the last two days, or three days, in two sermons I looked at the Corinthian church, where they went wrong spiritually, looking for, thinking that it was spiritual to have experiences, to seek knowledge, to seek talents, which there's nothing wrong with knowledge, but it doesn't make you spiritual, and experiences in the Galatian church, where they sought rules and the problems that are brought into these churches and in the Christians' lives.

And then I mentioned in the Corinthian church the importance, not to look at these things, but mostly to focus on faith and obedience, just to grow as a Christian, faith and obedience. And yesterday I looked practically at obedience after I looked at the rules of the Galatian church, and today I'm going to look a little bit, in a little time I've got, at 30 minutes, my daddy said I may not go over at faith, and I obey my daddy. I try to.

He told me to make my bed this morning. So let us pray. Father, thank you that we can be here today, and thank you for thy Word, and all that you've taught us through thy Word, Lord, and you long more than we

could ever long to have a deep and wonderful relationship with us, Lord.

And oh, thank you for thy love, the great and amazing love of God the Father, that you love every single one of us, that you loved us even as sinners when we were in rebellion, Lord, you loved us and gave your Son to die for us, so you knew that the whole world was in sin. And Father, I just ask today that you will speak to us, that you would again let thy truth go forth to set the captives free, and that you would bind the devil and his demons concerning this message in the name of Jesus Christ. I want to throw myself into your hands, Lord, and ask thee to work, in Jesus Christ's name.

Amen. The question, what is possible through faith? Well, Lord, you could speak for hours and hours and hours and hours on faith, and what is possible? It is only possible through Jesus Christ. Jesus said, I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Life. Well, the first thing that is possible through faith in Jesus is life for a sinner. Life for a sinner.

You know, some people make salvation so complicated. I'd like to put my my daddy's thing on. So, some people make salvation so complicated.

You wonder, you have to go this way and that way and take five steps before you get saved. And God said, we are saved through faith. You know, I mentioned earlier on the first day, it is so important that the motive of a sinner should be right.

He shouldn't come to Jesus to be saved just because he is sorry about hell or scared of hell. He should come with the right motive, and that is sorrow of his sin and his heart, which does not love God. But then I would also like to say that when a sinner has got to that point, whether he's on his knees or standing up or whatever he is in, that he is sorrowful of his sin and he wants to turn from his sin, then he doesn't have to do a complicated million things to be saved.

He doesn't have to run around the world and impress God with a million good works in religion or reformation. At that point on his knees or wherever he is, that person who's in sorrow of his sins has to do just one thing, and that is in faith to look to Jesus. Because Jesus Christ has paid it all.

I remember when as a young person, I knew it all, but it was so complicated. I didn't know how to get saved at times. You know Spurgeon made that mistake as a young person.

For seven years after he came on a conviction of sin, he started to seek life. Instead of just looking to Jesus, he started to go to the law. And for seven whole years he was just trying to find life through good works and religion and the law.

And of course the law can save no one. And then one day he went into a little meeting of a Methodist preacher. You've heard this story probably before, but it's so wonderful.

As he sat there, that preacher, the lay preacher, preached on that verse, look into me all the ends of the earth and be saved. And he said something like this. I can't remember the exact words, my own words.

He said, you can be tall or short, you can be wise or stupid. Anybody can look. It's not the hardest thing on earth.

It's not a complicated thing to look. And Spurgeon there decided, I'm going to look. And he looked.

And in that moment when he looked, he was made alive through Christ Jesus. Just one moment. It's all done on the cross.

All you have to do is look, sinner, if you're truly sorrowful over your sin. I know, man, you know the Lord can use anything. In one person, Chris Grenier, he said the Lord used a parrot to save him.

The Lord used a donkey, a barlin, to speak to him. The Lord can use a tree to save someone, to bring someone to salvation. Brother Lawrence, in history, he was walking down the road.

He saw these trees and he thought, well, if God can so change from the winter to the summer, trees that are barren, that don't have fruit, that have nothing, that have just dry. In one, God changes them from winter to summer into this lovely green tree with luscious fruit. If God can do that, then he can do it to me.

And he was on a conviction of sin, but he didn't make it complicated. One moment, as he thought, he just looked to Jesus and Jesus changed him. Look, it's so simple.

Jesus said to very religious people, John 5 verse 14, you will not come unto me that you might have life. You read the scriptures, but you will not come unto me. The second thing is that it's possible through Jesus and faith in him is abundant life.

Oh, we can have a rich spiritual life. Jesus allowed his disciples to lean upon his breast, little children to sit in his knees. He longs for us to have a close and rich and living relationship with him.

And he's made it possible. He said, I am come that you might have life. And note, he didn't say to the Corinthian church, experiences and knowledge and talents and feelings and miracles are come that you might have life.

He didn't say to the Galatian church, rules, a million rules that you have to keep have come that you might have life and that you might have it more abundantly. He didn't even say churches come or the Bible has come. He said this, I am come.

I am come that you might have life and that you might have it more abundantly. My friend, there are riches. There are riches that are ours, which are free in Christ Jesus.

There are so much riches. You could speak for hours and hours and hours as you go through the Bible on the riches that is ours freely in Christ Jesus, freely. You know, when I was a little boy, I went to the pick and pay.

It's a bit like your Walmart. And there, my granny used to, Dan and a few others, and they had these little tables. And, and, and I don't know if you've had them in America, but they have these little sweeties.

And as a little boy, you walk past perhaps two times or three times to get the same sweeties. And they wanted to promote these sweeties and cool, drink some coffee and all these things. And you go and you get your sweetie and it's for free.

And you eat it and it's too wonderful. And I must admit one thing though, even though it was for free, I wasn't very grateful for those sweets. You know why? Because I knew it didn't cost them anything much.

And also they were just doing it so that I could buy their product, my daddy could. But the riches which we have freely in Christ Jesus, did not cost God little. They cost God much.

We read in 2 Corinthians 8 verse 9, For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that he through his poverty might become rich. Jesus was poverty stricken so that we might have a rich spiritual life. He didn't lose just the golden streets of heaven for a while.

He who knew no sin became sin. He was rich spiritually and he went to the depths of poverty stricken spiritually when he became sin. The Bible says, Oh what a price he paid for he, that's God him, that's God the Son to be sin for us.

In Isaiah 53 verse 6, The Lord, that's God the Father laid on him, God the Son the iniquity of us all. God placed our sin upon his Son. You know what that cost God? God placed our sin upon his Son.

He had made him to be sin, says the Bible. And in this state of sinfulness, Isaiah 53 verse 7, it pleased the Lord to bruise him. God's wrath for our sin came upon Jesus Christ, his only Son.

That's what the Bible says. Oh Paul knew, Paul knew that the riches that he would preach about that are freely given to us in Jesus were not cheaply bought. And he said in Ephesians 3 verse 8 to the Christians at the Ephesian church, Unto me who am less than the least of the saints is this grace given that I should preach unto you the unsearchable riches of Christ.

I wrote a little song. I'm not going to sing it and it's going to read it to you. Riches in Jesus are given unto us.

Riches for you and for me. Do you realize the price that was paid? Then freely are riches to be. Oh, the unsearchable riches of Christ bought on the cruelest of trees.

He who knew no sin became sin for us that we might in him righteous be. Believe on Jesus and out of yourself living rivers shall flow. Victory and power and spiritual growth all in our Jesus is found freely.

You know there was a man in South Africa, a beggar, poverty stricken on the edge of the street with I suppose a little can as they go. They're asking people to put little pennies in so that he could buy bread daily. He was poverty stricken in South Africa.

He had family in Ireland, rich family and one by one those family died. They had a huge estate with I suppose a big castle and everything. Much riches and one by one they died and the last one died and it came to the point where he was the only heir.

That entire property by right according to the law was his. He was rich. He could live richly but you know something? He died poverty stricken.

He died begging. You know why? One reason. He never heard about his riches.

He never heard about his riches. He was ignorant. You know so many Christians, I'm talking about sometimes drunk and sometimes people who get wonderfully saved.

You know that they say but they stay at such a level not experiencing the riches, the companionship, the wonderful depths of what we can experience freely in Christ Jesus for one reason. One of them apart from not winning many times is just this ignorance. They don't know about the riches which we have freely bought for us in Christ Jesus.

You know the Bible says God does not want us to be ignorant. He said in 1 Corinthians 2 verse 12, now we have received not the spirit of this world but the spirit which is of God that we might know the things that are freely given us of God. God wants us to know those things which are freely given to us in Christ Jesus.

He longs for us to know and these things are not available through effort, through in the of working up riches. It's not available like the Galatian church thought through amazing rules. It's not available through amazing experiences.

It's freely given to us in Jesus. John 7 verse 38 said he that believeth on me as the scriptures has said out of his belly shall flow living water. It doesn't say he that has a million rules out of his belly shall flow living water.

It doesn't say he has a million experiences builds up knowledge out of his belly shall flow living waters. It says he that believeth on me out of his belly shall flow living waters. I believe that with all my heart.

Now what's it saying? Is it saying we have to work up faith? Is it saying that we have to have an emotional experience of working up faith until suddenly water flows out of our bellies? No. How do you work up what is freely given to you? How do you work up what is freely given to you? Hudson Taylor found this after many years of struggle. He wrote these words but how to get faith to strengthen.

Not by striving after faith but by resting in the faithful one. But by resting in the faithful one. If you want to experience the life through faith of riches in Christ Jesus then it's not going to be had by working up some funny feeling.

It's simply going to be resting in the one who long. Jesus Christ is not just life. It's not just riches.

He's a person. He's a person who longs in the Christian to be your life. He's a person who longs from his side more than you could ever long to give you a rich and wonderful life.

To give you everything that he bought on Calvary. He longs. He longs.

He longs. He longs. And so when you simply just rest in him and place your faith in him then he will from his side allow those rivers to flow.

He's faithful. He loves you. Hudson Taylor found that he could trust in God.

Those feelings went up and down. God said I will never leave you nor forsake you. Feelings leave you but doesn't mean God's left you.

You can trust in God and as he trusted in God not worrying about his feelings. So God started to allow those living waters to flow out of him as he rested in God. God was faithful.

Brother Lawrence found that too. It changed every single area of his life as he realized that though your feelings go up and down at the window sometimes God is still there. God is my portion.

He didn't leave me when my feelings left me. And so he started to pray to God. He ignored his feelings.

When there was no feelings he still prayed. When there was wonderful feelings he prayed and he started to learn the secret of a life of ceaseless prayer was not by working up emotions or simply trusting the

faithful. And so through the day he prayed.

God, oh it's wonderful, is our portion and he's a person and he longs to give us riches in life through Christ Jesus. God wants us to go forward. He wants us to grow as well.

2 Peter 1 verse 3 it says this according as his divine power hath given unto us all things all things not some things not 99% of the things not 99.9999% of all the things that pertain unto life and godliness all things that how has God given this unto us all things through the knowledge of him that hath called us unto glory and virtue he hasn't given us all things that pertain in life and godliness the rules he hasn't given it unto us uh through experiences and amazing uh feelings he's given it unto us through Jesus you know many people feel they feel incomplete.

Colossians says we are complete in him and by this i don't mean that we are complete in salvation we have to grow but they feel like they have to build a house of christianity and there's something missing they're not complete there's there's something that they first have to get before they can go forward spiritually and where is it and so they fall into the Corinthian church of thinking i first have to have an experience some funny thing happened to me before i can go forward spiritually or they feel like the Galatian church the first i have to get a million rules somewhere there's something that i'm missing before i can go forward spiritually God said we are complete in him if we are truly saved and therefore we can add unto our faith virtue with all diligence we can go forward we can

it's so wonderful that we have everything that we need to go forward as a christian we don't have to go around looking for stuff and experiences beforehand if we are christians we have everything we need to have a godly and wonderful life and to grow diligently oh God wants us to know though that what was freely given to us in God i'd like to mention a few things Colossians 1 verse 19 we have grace for it pleased the father that in him should all fullness dwell John 1 verse 16 and of his fullness have all we received and grace for grace we have received of the fullness of Jesus Christ and grace for grace where Jesus had grace in him we have grace he had grace to live a godly life and so we have grace to live a godly life he had grace to die and stand up for right in persecution and so we

have grace to die and stand up for right in persecution there's a man i just like to give a concept yeah there was a man and i'm probably telling the story slightly wrong but the basic concept is there i don't know if it was in the 16th 14th century or something like that this man concerning the grace which we have in Christ Jesus he i think the story goes he had a candle and he was on death row and he was going to be burned to the stake the next day and he thought can i do it do i have grace enough to die and be burned to the stake for god and victory and he said god please show me if i do and he put his finger in the candle he put his finger in the candle and oh and he started to get scared oh he was scared he said god i can't do this i can't do this and then hold on and he tried the

day before he just couldn't put his finger for a long time in the candle this poor person did not have grace you know he forgot something in the bible it says and god promised us that we can come before the throne of grace to receive mercy and grace to help in time of need not the day before you know the next day he was burning at the stake and he was praising god god gave him grace at the time many people they feel they do not have grace when things are coming up because they're not in it yet and they don't realize god said exactly what he said he'll give us grace through christ jesus in time of need as we look to him and that's concerning every grace in our life what do we have in jesus jesus wants us to know what we have in him and what he has bought on the cross not just our salvation

but so much more spiritually i'm going to mention a few that are started salvation 2 corinthians 5 verse 21 we have righteousness in jesus when we receive him for he has made him to be sin for us who knew no sin that we might be made the righteousness of god in him god makes us righteousness when we when we receive jesus christ because we have him we have such riches that we were poverty stricken spiritually now suddenly we are made as if we had never sinned before god our sins as far as east is from the west his smile is upon us because we have jesus this is riches number one we have victory in christ jesus in christ jesus 2 corinthians 4 14 just as jesus a grace to live a victorious life we read now thanks be unto god which always causes us to triumph in christ god there's victory in

christ jesus my grandfather had to find that out he used to smoke 60 cigarettes a day and he used to try in his own effort he was saved by the way to get set free until one day i suppose he did his part of destroying the cigarettes but he came to god and said god you set me free and he found out that in christ jesus there's a victory to this day he hates the smell of cigarettes and he's a wonderful godly man there's victory romans 6 verse 4 to 10 talks of victory of christ of a sin and death and then it we it identifies us with that which he has of a sin and death it's our victory of a sin and romans 6 verse 12 goes on to say let sin therefore because of this because in jesus where he had victory we have victory therefore because of this let not sin reign in your mortal bodies that you

should obey it in the lusts thereof we have righteousness we have victory galatians 2 verse 4 we have liberty we have liberty we have liberty not to have to from a million rules we don't have to keep a million rules to be right before god and to come before god we have liberty we have liberty to become before god we don't have to have an experience of rules before and because of jesus christ we have the richness of having been able to have boldness through his blood to become before the throne of grace to be able to speak to god not because of our feelings or experiences or rules but because we have jesus in galatians 5 is once you stand fast in your liberty 1 peter 2 verse 4 and 5 talks of something that's wonderful that we have in christ jesus that our spiritual sacrifices are

acceptable to god why because we have christ jesus he also is lively stones built up a spiritual house and holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices unto god acceptable to god sorry by jesus christ and prayer you know many times when you're on your knees perhaps and the devil's coming he's telling you god's not there you feel perhaps you have there's some rule and the devil will come that you have to keep or some experience that you have to have like the corinthian church just remind not the devil remind yourself that jesus christ and god sorry accepts the sacrifice of your prayers why because of jesus not because you're having a wonderful feeling feelings go out the window god hasn't he's right there he's not up in heaven that you have to speak to him if you say then he's right

inside you though you don't feel him he didn't leave him and it's acceptable fasting is acceptable giving is acceptable praise the sacrifice of praise hebrews 13 verse 15 all these sacrifices are acceptable before god one reason jesus christ and deuteronomy 33 verse 19 says talks of the sacrifice of righteousness and you know we talked about obedience practical obedience we're not earning our salvation we're not earning our salvation when we're obedient god accepts that obedience that we bring before him for one reason because of jesus christ and therefore he blesses us there's wonderful blessings in obedience we have authority over powers in christ jesus this is all the things that we have in jesus christian we have so much you cannot believe i remember last year i don't have you i'm a

very weak person like brother don actually more 10 times more and i'm thin but i remember i was sitting in my bed at this time and god was working in an amazing way people were shaking under conviction of sin

people didn't want to get out of their cars because of the conviction of sin in case they died i remember it was so wonderful and the devil was angry and i was in my bed and i just had my quiet time and so on i was going to bed and i was lying there in my bed and suddenly over my head came this i don't know what it was but it went and i don't know about you but i was scared i was petrified and in that moment i forgot every single little bit of theology of everything you're supposed to do in such situations and all i could think of to say is get away in the name of jesus christ and

one moment it was gone because it had to go because we have authority in christ jesus you know what i did i just want to be honest after it went whatever it was that spirit i put my blanket over my head last year i was in another town this person a young boy his father had been but he goes what if you say but the child had terrifying heavy metal music none of the devil lied to you and say it isn't satanic you don't know what the influences you bring into your life with that kind of stuff anyway he had this stuff and he told his father his father said i know he has it even though he lies to me and said he doesn't have it i'd ask the lord's protection that night but i went to bed and in the middle of the night i was lying there enjoying myself and suddenly something a dark thing came down

listen last year came onto my legs and started to push me into the bed and of course i forgot all my theology again and i just said get away in the name of jesus christ and it went and as you guessed i put the blanket over my head that is wonderful we have authority in christ jesus there's so much that we have and we have access to god we can come before god and pray we can everything is acceptable through one thing jesus christ but 2 corinthians 4 verse 7 we have this treasure in earthen vessels we have this treasure in earthen vessels i think the devil wants us to forget that sometimes it doesn't mean god's riches that we have in christ jesus does not mean that i never get tired sometimes also that god has used you in the most amazing way you feel so tired you feel like a frog nothing

and you have to remember that you're human it does not mean we have this treasure in earthen vessel that you never get tempted oh god because godly people's lives send the most amazing sorry the devil temptations that some of them felt like charles persian felt at one stage i cannot be saved these temptations are so coming into my head you have to reject them bring every temptation and every thought to captivity to the obedience of christ but it didn't mean that he was unsaved it doesn't mean that you'll never fail even though you have victory in christ you can live a victorious life all your life and at one point every day those temptations come you have a choice and you have a will and you can decide at a point before for that temptation each temptation is a choice in your life though

you have victory and then you have to come to god and forgive for forgiveness it doesn't mean that you don't have fear we have this treasure in earthen vessel we get tired we get tempted we can fail and boy we can put the blanket over our head we have fear you see god doesn't take away our weaknesses when he gives us riches when he gives us jesus god doesn't take away our weaknesses god's strength is made perfect in weakness as a young christian i try to get all the weaknesses away so that's how to get perfect no you've got riches you've got communion with god you can come before his throne you can have victory you have authority you have so many things that you have in christ jesus your sacrifices of prayer praise is not acceptable because you have uh experiences or rules acceptable

through jesus christ you can grow you can go forward you can believe in jesus and out of your belly will flow levels of living water but you have it all in earthen vessels and your weaknesses are probably going to stay there with you till the last day of your life many of them god's strength is made perfect and weaknesses i'd like to end off i've got two minutes well i've taken a one-hour sermon and cut out so many

illustrations and put it into 30 minutes and it's all because i want to honor my daddy i love him two minutes oh colossians 2 verse 3 talks about the treasure of wisdom and knowledge which is hidden christ jesus you know when i read that little thing hidden christ jesus i used to think when i was a little boy i went for treasure hunts i don't know if you've done that they put

all these little chocolates everywhere and then you are so excited you are jumping up and down because you're going to find the treasure and you want to find it before everybody else because you are very greedy and you want all the treasure and you just have these big legs and you want to run thin legs actually and then they say one two three go and you're gone and you're looking for that treasure and it's so amazing you're looking for this treasure everywhere there's oh i found one yay any of you have been a little child i was you know what i want to challenge you people today to go through the new testament i've done this myself write down every verse of what you have in christ jesus and i promise you you'll miss stuff because the next time you'll go through you'll see it more and more

and more and more you start to study ask god to show you what we have freely in christ jesus what you can have now we don't have to wait for a million years to have it because it's already bought for us on the cross have a treasure hunt through the bible it's exciting it's there it's ours one minute i'd like to end up with this story you know lots of people in corinthians paul talked about the thorn in the flesh oh my gonna have 30 seconds just this one thing and that is that uh talking about the treasure hunt some people they spend such a long time trying to figure out what was the thorn in the flesh because of paul's abundance of revelation you know i don't i don't worry much about what was the thorn in the flesh what i want to know is what was the abundance of revelation and i want to

look through the bible and find out what is mine through christ jesus and i want it to be part of my life through faith not through amazing feelings or rules anything else and obedience let us pray dear father i thank you i thank you that when you came down to die you came to pay such an awful price for sin your new notion became sin for us that we might become the righteousness of god in him lord father riches in jesus are given unto us riches for you and me do you know the price that was prayed and freely our riches to be thank you for the riches throughout the new testament cries it out that you want us to know of these riches that you wanted to be part of our lives lord that you want us to have communion with god you want us to go deep with god you want to have life and life abundant

through jesus christ that you want to have so many things and realize what is ours in christ jesus that you want us to go forward to grow lord that you've done everything and given us everything so we have no excuse not to go forward because it's all there and father i just ask you for every single one of us that the devil will not allow us to lose and our minds will be corrupted from the simplicity which is in christ jesus like the corinthian church did or that we'll be taken away from our liberty in christ jesus like the chalcidian church was but that through faith and through obedience lord we're grown leaps and bound as god almighty intended us to and that we'll experience everything there's in jesus christ ask you to give a fire to these people yet to go through the new testament and

to find out all that is theirs in christ jesus and to experience it lord in jesus christ's name my dear father amen thank you very much

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