



SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY SERIES
Part Five: "Growing in Spiritual Authority"
Pastor David Cannistraci ♦ May 25, 2008

"And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." Luke 2:52 (NIV)

► The _____ of _____ prepares us to handle spiritual authority.

SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY GROWS AS WE _____

"Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing by shall any means hurt you." Luke 10:19 (NKJV)

"God...decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son...We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in him." Romans 8:29 (MSG)

And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son." Hebrews 12:5-6 (NIV)

"Children who are under age are no better off than slaves, even though everything their parents own will someday be theirs." Gal. 4:1 (CEV)

THREE STAGES OF SPIRITUAL _____

"I write to you, fathers, because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the wicked one. I write to you, little children, because you have known the Father..." 1 John 2:13 (NKJV)

1. Spiritual _____

Growing (Cont'd)

"It's like this: when I was a child I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child does. But when I became a man my thoughts grew far beyond those of my childhood, and now I have put away the childish things." 1 Corinthians 13:11 (TLB)

"[When we are fully grown in the Lord] we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us..." Ephesians 4:14 (NLT)

2. Spiritual _____

"The glory of young men is their strength; and the beauty of old men is the grey head." Proverbs 20:29 (KJV)

3. Spiritual _____

"Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity..." Hebrews 6:1 (NIV)

FATHER GOD, Thank you that in Christ I am a true child of God. Now I ask that your process would produce the power and purpose of Christ in my life. Lord, get me ready for Kingdom power whatever it takes! In Jesus' Name, AMEN

RESOURCES FOR THIS WEEK'S SMALL GROUPS

- Icebreaker:** Name something unique about yourself as a child.
- Scripture Focus:** Let each member share a verse from this teaching--one that spoke to them personally. What does it mean to them?
- Discussion Focus:** How can better cooperate with the maturing processes of God in our lives this week?
- Prayer Focus:** Pray for those who are going through challenges.
- REMEMBER** to give an offering for the needy in your group this week, for God has promised us a rich reward (Det. 15:11, Psalm 41:1)