

Stages of Spiritual Growth
Lesson II: The Newborn Believer (Position)
I John 2:12-14

I. Lesson II—The Newborn

1. Introduction

1. There is a _____ of growth in our spiritual life.
 1. This process of spiritual growth should be the focus of our life because it is at the heart of our _____ .
 2. There are no _____ .
 3. It is the _____ of faith.

2. In I John 2:12-14, John speaks of three stages of spiritual growth.
 1. _____ - (position)
 2. _____ - (priority)
 3. _____ - (passion)
 4. These stages are not well-defined levels of permanent _____ but serve as a challenge to continually move toward _____ .

2. The Newborn (Position)

1. There are three benefits given to the new born:
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

II. The Newborn Has a New Birth

1. The New Testament uses three descriptions for the new birth
 1. _____ - (John 3:3)
 2. _____ - (2 Corinthians 5:17)
 3. _____ - (Romans 6:1-12; Ephesians 2:1-7)

2. The implications of the new birth:
 1. Salvation is of _____ .
 2. A new relationship has been formed in the life of the spiritual newborn not only with God but also with _____ .
 1. The power of sin has been _____ . (Romans 6:1-12)
 2. The ability to _____ is at the heart of our new life.

III. The Newborn Has a New Righteousness

1. Having been born again, we are given the gracious gifts of _____ and _____ . We exercise these in order to receive the salvation through Christ.

2. This salvation is all encompassing. It involves not just removing our guilt but it declares us to be _____ in God's sight. This is called _____ .

3. This justification deals with our:
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

4. Implications:

1. Being justified, we do not obey for the purpose of gaining a _____ before God.
2. Being justified, we no longer obey out of doubt, begrudged obligation, and self-service, but out of _____ and a desire to glorify God.

IV. The Newborn Has a New Relationship to the Father

1. As adopted children, we are given _____ .
(Romans 8:14; I Corinthians 2:14-15)
2. As adopted children, we are given the ability to relate to God intimately as our _____.
(Romans 8:15)
3. As adopted children, we are given _____. (Romans 8:16)
4. As adopted children, we are given the promise of the _____. (Romans 5:5; 8:28)
5. As adopted children we are given _____ in eternity. (Romans 8:17; I Peter 1:4)