

Developing Spiritual Authenticity

1. Develop a passion for Jesus.

“How do we fall more deeply in love with Christ? The same way we fall in love with a person. Friendship and love develop from spending time together, talking, and doing pleasurable things together.”

Carole Mayhall

Luke 7:36-50

Take the time to read
this story.

“One of Jesus’ specialties is to
make somebodies out of
nobodies.”

Dr. Henrietta Mears

➤ Get to know Him personally.

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- Hang out with Him.

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- Make His priorities your priorities.

2. Do what the King wants done.

“The presence of God in a believer’s life makes everything spiritual. When eternity dwells within you, your life is not ordinary because you house the Lord of Glory. Each moment, no matter how mundane, is infused with eternal spiritual significance.”

Mimi Wilson and Shelly
Volkhardt

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- Expect results.

3. Cultivate honesty about sin.

“Many Christians are unthinkably horrified when a real sinner is suddenly discovered among the righteous. So we remain alone with our sin, living in lies and hypocrisy. He who is alone with his sins is utterly alone.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

➤ Do I try to give the impression that I'm better than I am?

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- Do I embellish the truth in order to make a story about myself or someone else more interesting?

➤ Did I do anything today that made my conscience feel uneasy?

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➤ Was I too proud to admit my fault in a situation today?

➤ Did I do anything in private today that I would be embarrassed to admit to my best friend?

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- Have I deceived someone by saying nothing?

➤ Do I defend God's absolute truth, or have I given in to the popular trend toward relative truth?

4. Focus on integrity of heart above outward behavior.

“Jesus’ followers are those who intentionally arrange their lives around the goal of spiritual transformation – the development of a well-ordered heart. We can learn to be intentional.”

John Ortberg

What is a heart of integrity?

It's not:

➤ Living by a list of boundaries

What is a heart of integrity?

It's not:

- Living by a list of boundaries
- Becoming exclusive, proud, or judgmental.

What is a heart of integrity?

It's not:

- Making ministry a heavy, distasteful, laborious task
- Focusing our ministry on what we've done, instead of on what God has done.

5. Think in terms of eternity,
not time.

“Something more is coming!

Everything in Scripture points
to it and everything within us
cries out for it. God’s work
with us is not finished in this
life.”

Ray Stedman