

Facet 8: Processed Spirituality

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The process of spirituality conflicts with what society affirms in this day and age. In this culture, people are more self-absorbed than ever before, making the primitive focus personal feelings, ideas, and choices. In addition to that, people live their lives based on quotes such as, “You are essentially who you create yourself to be, and all that occurs in your life is the result of your own making.” Unfortunately, the memorandum itself suggests that everything is about ones desire. Temporal-tangible things are the priority for people, instead of the eternal. Likewise, Christians have become bemused by the tangible as well and have the same conflict because of sin nature. In Facet 8 of *Conformed to His Image*, Kenneth Boa outlined key points of process spirituality. This chapter discussed process versus product and being versus doing, which can be achieved by submitting to the journey, dealing with the business of life, and learning to be grateful.

Boa reminds the reader that the Christian walk is not a is a step by step journey, that involves stages. These steps happen over time and are essential to spiritual growth. What makes spiritual growth possible is knowing that one has a promise from God and faith in Him to get through the process of maturity because they know that the promise of God will be fulfilled in their life. Belief in God is often stimulated by what we see as unfilled goals and dreams. It grows as we experience setbacks; often these delays cause us to stick close to God. Many times during adversity causes our faith to grow faith to grow. Through this process, the character of Christ is revealed. We find out through his word, trusting him in the process, and believing while in the mist of the process. This faith in God leads us to contentment and hope in our future in Him.

In addition to this, in our spiritual process, we are often distracted by what fills our life. Our schedules, and the things we pack our days push God out of our lives. It is important during

this time not to be driven to cause instead of being called by Christ because if we do, according to Boa activity will be the focus over intimacy and knowing God. Boa quotes Oswald Chambers as he states, “Our primary purpose is not to do something for Christ but to know Him; our activities and abilities are useless for the kingdom unless He energizes them...” That is why our relationship with God is so important. It takes us back to who we are in him, and when we know who we are in him; we can simply relax and just be. Being is not an inactive process but an active ongoing state of growing in Him. When we live a life of contentment, we acknowledge who’s our source. This acknowledgment makes submitting to the journey that we are on easier, and we can then see God in everything. From this comes an appreciation for who God is and how He has truly blessed us all exceedingly and abundantly above all we could ask or think.

Bibliography

Boa, Kenneth. *Conformed to His image: biblical and practical approaches to spiritual formation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001.