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PMN 101: Intro to Spiritual Formation

Professor West

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### Spiritual Autobiography

At a young age, I was raised in a Penecostal background. From the age of 4, I started my walk with the Lord as I started attending church. Growing up I always thought that I was always being forced to go to church, or just because my mother wanted me to go. As I continued to attend church, as an adolescence it had a major impact on me because as I started to get older my curiosity for God was increasing. At the age of 13, I've decided to give my life to the Lord and continue to walk with him.

Some factors that has influenced my spiritual development would be the many family health issues, generational curses, and every attack of Satan against my life. As I started to grow spiritually, the Holy Spirit has taught me how to fight and has allowed me to see those evil principalities. One example that has influenced my spiritual development is the generational curse that follows my family. With the generational curse that follows my family bloodline, it has made it my top priority and obligation to continue to have a relationship with God. The day I leave the Lord, the enemy has legal access to attack me with those generational curses. To this day, I always pray that I am covered with the blood of Jesus and that no weapon formed against me shall prosper.

As I started walking with God, from the age of 13 to now, multiple spiritual disciplines has formed me. Some spiritual disciplines that has formed me occurred when I was lukewarm and when I first backslid. During these times, I noticed everything was changing within my relationship with my parents, my education, my friends and myself. It was a hard time for me to get back on my feet due to a lot of discouragement and I ultimately gave up on God. I took my frustrations upon God and those around me. These disciplines formed me because I was being attacked by Satan nonstop and I ultimately came back to God and repented.

The progress in my journey has been a rollercoaster. There were times when I wanted to go back to the world, times when I wanted to give up on God, and times when I felt alone. Through the grace and mercy of God, he has allowed me to see and experience things so that I can share my testimony with others. Meaning, whoever I share my testimony with can see the love of our Father and how much he is willing to fight for us. But most importantly for us to draw closer to him and to never leave him.

Throughout the past 5 years, my faith has evolved enormously. God has taken me out from a Pentecostal congregation I was in for the past 13 years and took me elsewhere. Before God had taken me out from my congregation, I wasn't serving for 5 months. During that time, I was at my darkest place, and felt like God had abandoned me. Little did I know, the Lord was taking me to a new place for me to be healed, delivered, and restored. I had a fresh encounter with God, an encounter with God that I haven't experienced before and it was beautiful. During the time of my restoration, I experienced something supernatural that I haven't experienced in a long time. It was during the devotional on a Sunday morning, I felt the presence of God so powerfully in my heart that I fell to my knees and I was crying. All of a sudden I felt someone

hugging me and I thought to myself, “Oh my God, maybe one of the ushers is hugging me.”

When I opened my eyes, there was no one around me or behind me. After service, I told my mom my experience and she told me that she saw someone hugging me. She explained to me, as she was worshipping God, her head tilted and she saw someone dressed in white with their arms wrapped around me. We both understood that it was God hugging me in that moment for he had wrapped me in his arms.

I currently practice my faith by praying, worshipping, seeking God’s face, trusting in God through the trials and tribulations, and being a disciple in my church. I find it very important to me to always seek and communicate with God. I always find it important to always walk in God’s path and to never leave him. Most importantly, I find it important to trust God with all of my heart and never doubt him.

In conclusion, throughout my experiences, I am very thankful that God has shown mercy upon my life. God has shown me unconditional love, God has always fought for me, and God will never forsake me. I pray that God will continue to help me and bless me. But most importantly, as I grow and mature in the Lord, I will continue to listen to his voice and be obedient to him.