

### No. 3      **Keep Jehovah Before You Constantly**

*Note to the speaker:*

Talk with audience participation and videos. Help the brothers to see the importance of being spiritual men

#### **WHAT IS SPIRITUALITY?** (4 min.)

The word “spirituality” as used in the Bible refers to an attitude or an approach to life (Jude 17-19)

For appointed men, spirituality means being sensitive to and firmly adhering to the direction that has come to us by God’s spirit

Those with a spiritual attitude value God’s standards

Spirituality involves “setting the mind on the spirit” **[Read Romans 8:6]**

This means letting our mind be influenced by and dominated by Jehovah’s holy spirit and being in harmony with God and his thoughts

Paul explained the difference between a physical man and a spiritual one (1Co 2:14-16)

A physical man follows the impulses of the flesh

A spiritual man is characterized as having the mind of Christ

The spiritual man thinks as Jesus does and walks in his footsteps

The more a person imitates Christ, the deeper his spirituality becomes

#### **THE SPIRITUAL MAN KEEPS JEHOVAH BEFORE HIM CONSTANTLY** (16 min.)

One way to resemble Christ is to keep Jehovah before you constantly **[Read Psalm 16:8]**

In your private meditations, always regard yourself as in the presence of Jehovah

Jehovah’s dealings with Moses were so real that he reacted as if he had seen “the One who is invisible” (Heb 11:27)

Joseph kept Jehovah before him constantly when tempted by Potiphar’s wife (Ge 39:9)

Jesus kept Jehovah before him constantly when tempted by the Devil (Mt 4:4, 7, 10)

Your actions should demonstrate that Jehovah is constantly before you in all you do, whether teaching, shepherding, evangelizing, or engaging in other activities related to your service to Jehovah

A spiritual man must avoid overconfidence

Note in the following video what could happen if an elder fails to keep Jehovah before him constantly

<<**PLAY VIDEO [2 min. 10 sec.]**>>

#### **Questions:**

1. What could have happened if this brother had failed to keep Jehovah before him?
2. What subject did the brother research to help him get Jehovah’s viewpoint?
3. How can overconfidence make us lose sight of Jehovah?

Regular Bible reading, personal study, and meditation are essential (w00 10/1 8 ¶3-5)

[Briefly highlight the suggestions for Bible reading found in the August 1, 2009, issue of *The Watchtower*, pages 13-18]

The congregation benefits from elders and ministerial servants who are known to be serious students of God’s Word, able to “explain spiritual matters with spiritual words” (1Co 2:11-13)

A spiritual man must feed exclusively at “the table of Jehovah”

Some appointed men have privately engaged in defiling practices, damaging their conscience and disqualifying themselves

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“The table of demons” promotes disgraceful sexual perversions, pornography, and violent and debasing entertainment (1Co 10:21; w02 4/1 30)

Improper entertainment continues to be a plague that causes some to lose sight of Jehovah

What can help us if we struggle in this area?

Note in the following video what this brother had to do so that Jehovah was before him constantly

<<PLAY VIDEO [1 min. 51 sec.]>>

#### **Questions:**

1. How is viewing pornography or *anything that stirs up immoral desires* like feeding at “the table of demons”? (1Jo 5:18, 19)
2. How does Galatians 6:7, 8 apply when it comes to immoral entertainment?
3. What can we do to make our resolve like that of David at Psalm 101:3? (*lv* 104, box)

When you make decisions on types of entertainment, whether other humans can see you or not, remember that your choices affect your relationship with Jehovah (1Co 10:23; Col 3:17)

Constant heartfelt prayer helps to keep Jehovah before us (1Th 5:17)

Before making major decisions, request Jehovah’s spirit and direction (w07 8/1 6 ¶1)

Research the publications to make sure your thinking agrees with Jehovah’s

Willingly submit to Jehovah’s powerful holy spirit and display its fruitage in your life (Ro 8:5-8; w07 8/1 5 ¶2; w01 3/15 15)

Our thinking, inclinations, and aspirations must come under the influence of God’s active force and not be undermined by worldly thinking (Ro 12:2; w16.5 21 ¶14)

Regular attendance and participation at the meetings are important to keep the spiritual man and his family built up and stabilized (Ps 26:12)

Commenting is an expression of your faith and builds up the spirituality of others

#### **KEEP JEHOVAH AT YOUR RIGHT HAND** (4 min.)

Look at **Psalm 16:8** one more time [**Read**]

How do we keep Jehovah at our “right hand”?

Like Jesus, we let God’s Word and spirit guide us in every aspect of life (Ps 119:105)

What assurance do we have that we can maintain our spirituality and face the future with confidence? [**Read Psalm 73:23, 24**]

What a warm picture that conveys—Jehovah grasping your hand!

Allow Jehovah to strengthen you as you strengthen and support the congregation

Be led by Jehovah’s counsel, fully confident that he will ‘hold us by the right hand’ and support us

Jehovah will ‘lead us to glory’ in numerous ways, including bestowing the honor of a close personal relationship with him

May it be your resolve to keep Jehovah before you constantly

[Introduce the next part on the program]