2 studies: 1st Angelic Conflict
2nd Spiritual Warfare

1 John 1:9 (NKJV)
9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Feelings are not a gauge for spirituality

We cannot come to a knowledge of truth through human experience

GOD'S WORD

Our Reference Point

THE basis for comparison - the immutable point, chart which everything must be measured against, the standard, the ruler, the measuring instrument

We must not rely on human experience or man's word !

We must not evaluate God's word through human experience

Translations are not adequate we must look at the original languages

50:38,39

ADVANCING TOWARD FUTURE PROPHETIC FULFILLMENTS

Angelic Conflict

The wicked one

How a Christian grows spiritually is a major theme in 1st John

vocative – The case that is used for direct address. The noun in the vocative case is being directly addressed.

1 John 2:13–17 (NKJV)

1. *leknion* referring to everyone

12 I write to you, **little children**, Because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.

2. *paidion*: It's clear John's addressing three stages of maturity

13 I write to you, **fathers**, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning.
I write to you, **young men**, Because **you have overcome the wicked one**.
I write to you, **little children**, Because you have known the Father.

3. Now that the stage is set; John gives the intended instruction

14 I have written to you, **fathers**, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning.
I have written to you, **young men**, Because **you are strong**, and **the word of God abides in you**, And **you have overcome the wicked one**.

John 8:31 (NKJV)
31 So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine;

John 15:4 (NKJV)
4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

kosmos
15 Do not **love** the **world** or the things in the **world**. If anyone loves the **world**, the love of the Father is not in him.
16 For all that is in the **world**—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.
17 And the **world** is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

***kosmos* doesn't necessarily refer to evil activity but it is a reference to the kind of thinking that characterizes the world**

kosmic or the world's system of thinking, is related to Satan and the Demonic

James 3:13–15 (NKJV)
13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.
14 But if you have bitter envy and **self-seeking** in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth.
15 This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, **demonic**.

How we grow spiritually

The Position for Advancement:

Confession is necessary to restore fellowship and recover the filling of the Holy Spirit

Advancing by means of Scripture - God's word, truth

Ephesians 5:18 (NKJV)
18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but **be filled with the Spirit**,

Galatians 5:16 (NKJV)
16 I say then: **Walk in the Spirit**, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

2 Peter 1:3–4 (NKJV)
3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, **through the knowledge of Him** who called us by glory and virtue,
4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Advancing through group orientation & doctrinal orientation: Bible

Grace Orientation: everything in the spiritual life is based in who God is and what Jesus did on the cross

Doctrinal Orientation: the transformation of our thinking, so that we learn to think as God thinks

Advance To Spiritual Adolescents:

Advance to spiritual adult:

2 Peter 3:18 (NKJV)
18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.

1 Corinthians 2:16 (NKJV)
16 For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" **But we have the mind of Christ.**

This Metaphorical Fortress for the Soul: Is in relation to the Angelic Conflict

Spiritual Warfare.

Ephesians 6:10–18 (NASB95)
10 Finally, be **strong** in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

7479 ἐνδυναμόομαι (**dynamai**) to become able to do something – to become able, to become capable.
It's potential power, the power that we get from the Holy Spirit. It is God's strength that protects us, not ours.

11 Put on the full armor of God so that you will be able to **stand firm** against the **schemes** of **the devil**.
12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

The enemy really isn't another person, another human being; ultimately the enemy has spiritual dimension and is part of a broader conflict involving angels and demons

1487 μεθοδεία (**methodeia**) from μετά, meta, **1** with; among, + ὁδός, hodos, **2** way. TDNT = 5:93 ; **GN 88.158 scheming**, craftiness; **(2) wiles, strategies** (Eph 6:11, Ignatius [Ver.] Mag.)

or the KOSMIC thinking that characterizes the world

truth, truth, verb: **aletheuo**, noun: **aletheia**, adj.: **alethes**, from **a** not, **lanthanomai**, to escape notice, to be hidden, to escape the mind, to escape the memory, to escape the heart, to escape the will, to escape the life, to escape the world, to escape the truth, to escape the truth, to escape the truth