

Spirit, Soul, and Body Needs Assessment

“Making a Difference in the Whole Person”

Theme scriptures:

“And some having compassion, making a difference”

Jude 22

“And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ”

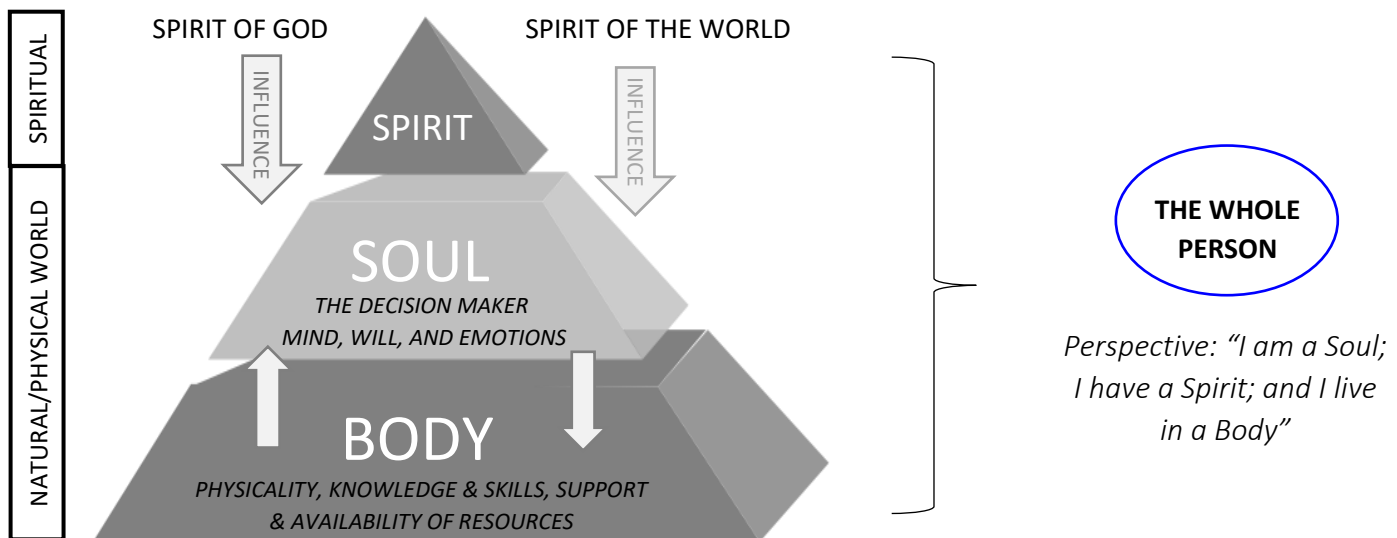
1 Thessalonians 5:23

Why “Needs Assessment”?

- This Region 1 initiative will be focused on examining the current situation and capabilities of our local churches, communities, citizens, agencies, and organizations, to be used as a foundation for developing strategies that are related to, and seek to improve specific needs, issues, and challenges that are identified as a result of the assessment.
- Region 1 Ministries currently include Men, Women, Youth, Evangelism, and Music. Each ministry is encouraged to utilize the Needs Assessment (implementing strategic initiatives) in ways that influence and support carrying out our Bishop’s vision for growth (improving operations) in both Regional Operations and the Central California District Council.

Why the “Spirit, Soul, and Body”?

- Let’s assume there are three dimensions of a whole person (1 Thess. 5:23). Each dimension requires different types of needs to be met, yet in some way, each dimension influences another, ultimately leading to the decisions, actions, and well-being of the individual.



Parameters for Assessing the Spirit, Soul, and Body

- **Spirit** – Each person has a God-given spirit able to relate to influences of external spirits (God or the World).
 - Spiritual health and well-being are dependent upon how the individual relates or is influenced by these spirits.
 - Is influenced by:
 - The knowledge of God and obedience to His Word (especially relative to the new birth).
 - Fasting and prayer life (denying flesh/self and seeking God’s will)
 - Fellowshiping (Heb. 10: 22-23 “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together...”)
 - Ministry
 - Worship (individual and corporate)
- **Soul** – Each person is a soul (Gen. 2:7); sometimes this is described as an individual’s mind, will, and/or emotions.
 - Mind – consciousness, mental capabilities, and mental health
 - Will – sovereignty and decision-making capabilities
 - Emotions – desires/feelings, often related to perceptions of how needs are being met

- All of which is influenced by:
 - Mental and emotional health/well-being
 - Depression
 - Trauma
 - Addiction, behavioral issues, so much more...
- **Body** – Each person lives in a body; the state of an individual’s livelihood is affected by health and their environment
 - Physical health: a state of physical well-being, given environmental resources and limitations
 - Physical well-being: related to how physical needs are (or can be) met
 - Recognized to be significantly influenced by a person’s spirit and soul
 - Is influenced by:
 - Diet and exercise
 - Habits
 - Education and credentials
 - Support system and availability of resources (interpersonal relationships, finances, etc.)

Principles:

- Faith is acting on truths that God reveals, which provides the best outcomes of the whole person.
- The body of Christ (the church) is God’s instrument today for providing the best outcomes
- A (limited) agenda should be: “Having compassion and making a difference” to outcomes.

Making a Difference

- Our churches have an on-going commitment to making a difference in their communities. Identifying needs that are directly related to issues our members and those of our community are facing, helps us further our commitment to lead by first serving.
- The Spirit, Soul, and Body Needs Assessment gives our members an opportunity to identify and voice needs that are the most common or of the most importance in our churches.
- Participating in the anonymous surveys gives our local churches regional support in addressing these needs.