

## Under Construction

The Bible equates all Christians as spiritual houses. When we accept Christ, the construction of our spiritual life begins. **1 Corinthians 6:19-20:** *“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God?”* Our lives are like temples built for the glory of God. Yet, we often wonder why we aren’t more mature in our faith. Consider how we feel after losing our temper, saying unwise things, making careless purchases, or entertaining sinful thoughts. No one is exempt from these struggles; we all share this guilt. With a sense of remorse, we remind ourselves that, as Christians, we shouldn’t behave this way. Remember, we are all under construction. God isn’t finished with us yet. He is building us up, edifying, strengthening, developing, and maturing us. He is perfecting all that concerns us. **Psalms 138:8:** *“The Lord will accomplish what concerns me; Your faithfulness, Lord, is everlasting; Do not abandon the works of Your hands.”* We all have the framework around our lives as God builds us into His image. **1 Peter 2:5:** *“you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”* By using the word "spiritual," Peter helps us understand that he is not referring to a literal, physical house; instead, God is doing something spiritual within us. The Apostle Paul introduces a similar concept to Peter’s assertion that believers are being built up as spiritual houses. **Romans 8:9:** *“You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ,”* Paul explains that the Holy Spirit lives in every believer. **Ephesians 2:22:** *“And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit.”* Our lives are a house of God’s possession and a dwelling place for God. Jesus told us, **John 4:23-24:** *“Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is Spirit, and His worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”* Since God is Spirit, it makes perfect sense that His dwelling would be spiritual, and He resides in all believers through the Holy Spirit. We use our bodies to honor our Creator. **1 Peter 2:12:** *“Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God ...”* This idea is not secretive; we are meant to use the physical tools that God has given us for the purposes to which He designed us. When we recognize that we are created as a spiritual dwelling and that God resides within us, we understand that worshipping Him involves using our bodies to honor and serve Him. It’s exciting to think that each day, God uses the challenges we face along with the power of His Word to shape us, help us grow, and strengthen us.