

“What I Really Need is Spiritual Growth”

Introduction: *Growth is Happiness!*

“Not enjoyment and not sorrow
Is our destined end always;
But to live that each tomorrow
Finds us further than today.”
- Longfellow

Growth Principles:

1. It's what you learn after you know it all that counts.
2. Unless you try to do things beyond what you've already mastered, you'll never grow.
3. The highest reward for our toil is not what we get from it, but what we become by it.

A Picture of Christians who failed to grow:

Hebrews 5:11-6:1

¹¹Much more could be said about this subject. But it is hard to explain, and all of you are slow to understand. ¹²By now you should have been teachers, but once again you need to be taught the simplest things about what God has said. You need milk instead of solid food. ¹³People who live on milk are like babies who don't really know what is right. ¹⁴Solid food is for mature people who have been trained to know right from wrong.
- Hebrews 5:11-14 (CEV)

¹⁴But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.
- Hebrews 5:14 (NASB)

¹Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about Christ, let us **press on** to maturity.
- Hebrews 6:1 (NASB)

Steps to Spiritual Growth:

The “LEARN IT” Phase. (The “head” phase)

How can we “learn it?”

1. Sunday Worship Celebrations
2. P.G. Basics; New Christian's Class – Firm Foundations
3. GROW in God's Word
4. DivorceCare
5. Listening online, DVDs, CDs, etc.

The “LOVE IT” Phase. (The “heart” phase)

*“... let us **press on** to maturity.”*

- Hebrews 6:1

The key to willpower is want power. People who want something bad enough can usually find the willpower to achieve it.

6. Life Groups
7. Small Groups: Men, Women, Youth
8. Retreats: Men (Jan. 18-20), Sr Youth (Feb. 8-10), Jr Youth (Mar. 22-24)
9. GROW in Your Walk

*Everyone who belongs to Christ belongs
to everyone who belongs to Christ.*

The “LIVE IT” Phase. (The “hands” phase)

“Solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.”

- Hebrews 5:14

How do I get started in the “LIVE IT” phase?

10. Helping (teacher, assistant, nursery, usher, greeter, teller, hospitality, group leader, host, etc.)
11. Outreach opportunities & Service ministries
12. GROW in Your Ministry

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