



**Growth is not an Option**

*NorthRidge Church*

*Dr. M. David Myers*

October 30, 2022

**Truth for Life**

October 30, 2022

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

*Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble. – 2 Peter 1:10*

Where there is life, there must be growth ...

\_\_\_\_\_ is committed to our Growth ...

Cp. Cor. 3:6-7; Is. 60:21

\_\_\_\_\_ must be committed to our Growth ...

Cp. 2 Pet. 3:18; 2 Cor. 10:15; 2 Thess. 1:3

**We Must Use What We Have – 2 Peter 1:5-11**

**I. We Must Focus on Adding to our Faith (1:5-7)**

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_
- f. \_\_\_\_\_
- g. \_\_\_\_\_

**II. We must Determine to Bear Fruit ... (1:8-9)**

- a. Determine not to be \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Determine not to be \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Determine not to be \_\_\_\_\_

**III. Our Diligence will Result in ... (1:3-4)**

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Now
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ Later

**My Takeaway ...**

The Christian life begins with faith, but that faith must lead to spiritual growth—unless it is a \_\_\_\_\_.

1. What were the significant points of your growth as you grew to an adult? Can you identify any factors that affected your growth (positively or negatively)? Have you had any significant growth elements after becoming an adult?

2. As we have unmasked spiritual growth, we have come to understand that God is the one who grows us. A potential hindrance to His power and motivation working in our lives is the sinful and self-centered nature we are all born with. Read Galatians 5:16-26.

When we live for the flesh, what kind of behaviors can we expect?

When we live by the Spirit, what kind of behaviors can we expect?

How do we choose to live by the Spirit? What do we need to do to accomplish this for the whole of life, not just a moment or 2 during the week?

3. Read the following verses that teach us about spiritual growth.

Colossians 1:9-10	1 Peter 1:5-8	2 Timothy 3:16-17
Psalms 1:1-3	Hebrews 5:12-14	Ephesians 4:15-16

What do they teach us about spiritual growth? Any principles? How could these verses assist you in your spiritual growth?

4. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your small group.

- a. If you could change just one thing about your walk with God, what would it be? How can you begin to change it?
- b. How can a believer know whether an outward matter is conformity with the world or just culturally and spiritually neutral?

**Appointment with God – Prayer Focus**

Father, in Deuteronomy 6:7, You charge parents with the responsibility of diligently teaching their children how to love You with all their heart, soul, and strength. Give us the heart to teach, mentor, and equip parents how to accomplish this charge. Anoint and equip leaders of children and youth ministries to fill in where You lead them to do the same. Oh, Father, fill us with YOUR HEART for these, Your children.



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**God** is committed to our Growth ...

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### We Must Use What We Have – 2 Peter 1:5-11

I. We Must Focus on Adding to our Faith (1:5-7)

- a. **Virtue**
- b. **Knowledge**
- c. **Self-Control**
- d. **Perseverance**
- e. **Godliness**
- f. **Brotherly Kindness**
- g. **Love**

II. We must Determine to Bear Fruit ... (1:8-9)

- a. Determine not to be **Barren**
- b. Determine not to be **Unfruitful**
- c. Determine not to be **Shortsighted**

III. Our Diligence will Result in ... (1:3-4)

- a. **Holiness** Now
- b. **Heaven** Later

### My Takeaway ...

The Christian life begins with faith, but that faith must lead to spiritual growth—unless it is a **Lifeless Faith**.

1. What were the significant points of your growth as you grew to an adult? Can you identify any factors that affected your growth (positively or negatively)? Have you had any significant growth elements after becoming an adult?

2. As we have unmasked spiritual growth, we have come to understand that God is the one who grows us. A potential hindrance to His power and motivation working in our lives is the sinful and self-centered nature we are all born with. Read Galatians 5:16-26.

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