

## Growing in Christ

6) What is your definition of Spiritual Growth?

ANSWER

Spiritual growth is to become more like Jesus Christ through a transformation of heart, mind, and soul. Spiritual growth is to mature in Christ through increasing in the knowledge of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Spiritual growth connects one to spiritual development, which focuses on deepening one's relationship with God. Spiritual growth is maturing in Christ as a disciple by learning more about and leaning into God.

II Corinthians 3:18 (TLB) – Living Bible

But we Christians have no veil over our faces; we can be mirrors that brightly reflect the glory of the Lord. And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him.

Yearn for Change

Spend time with God

Start and end day with prayer

What stems spiritual growth

- Parable of Tare and Wheat, Matthew 13:24-43
- Parable of Sower, Matthew 7:24-27
- Salt of the earth, Matthew 5:13

## Growing in Christ

Psalm 37:3-5 KJV

<sup>3</sup> Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. <sup>4</sup> Delight thyself also in the LORD: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. <sup>5</sup> Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

I Samuel 12:24 NIV

But be sure to fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you.

*Sower and the seed*

*Luke 8:14-15*

The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

Hebrews 5:14 NIV

<sup>14</sup> But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 6:1 NIV

**6** Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death,<sup>[a]</sup> and of faith in God,

Ephesians 4:13 NIV

<sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

## Growing in Christ

James 1:4 explains that the end result of trial and tribulation is that it leads toward maturity. Knowing that God is at work can give us comfort when we face difficulties.

Growth happens as we live "by faith" day by day. Living by faith means "standing on the promises of God," even when you cannot see whether the promises are coming true.

7) Can you memorize one of these Scriptures? Matthew 6:33, Proverbs 3:5, or Philippians 4:13

Matthew 6:33 KJV

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

## Growing in Christ

### Bonus Exercise

(complete the short survey & develop a personal action plan)

The Word of God	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Seldom	Never
	5	4	3	2	1
I make it a habit to memorize Scripture often.					
I spend quality time reading, studying, and meditating on Scripture.					
I participate in Bible Study or Sunday School weekly.					
I pray to God daily.					
I use Scripture for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training.					
<b>Add up each column and provide total</b>					

### Growth Action Plan Example

Overall Goal	Achievement Goal	Specific Action	Resources	Measurement	Targeted Start date
Develop a personal growth plan to gain knowledge in The Word of God.	Spend quality time reading, studying, meditating on Scripture, and praying to God.	Spend 15 to 30 minutes daily praying, reading, studying, and meditating on Scripture. Memorize a Scripture each month.	Use a Bible or download a Bible Application on a smartphone.  Choose a daily time to pray, read, study, and meditate on Scripture.	Keep a journal or notebook to log how often prayer, reading, studying, or meditating on the Scripture.	October 7, 2023

### Set up a Growth Action Plan based on your survey results!

Overall Goal	Achievement Goal	Specific Action	Resources	Measurement	Targeted Start date