

**HOW TO GROW IN CHRIST**  
**LESSON #3**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Many Christians grow fast. Others grow slow. Some just don't grow!**

**THINK ABOUT IT: How do I want to grow?**

The Bible compares the new believer to a new baby, but then immediately commands that the babe "GROW UP." Ephesians 4:15 says, "Grow up into Him (Christ) in all things." This lesson will help you discover three ways to grow and mature in Christ.

**1. I NEED TO GROW THROUGH PRAYER.**

**Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance, but taking hold of His eagerness.**

**A. PURPOSES OF PRAYER**--Circle the answer which corresponds to the scripture reference.

- i. A purpose of prayer in John 16:24 is: (1) that we can share with God; (2) that we will put things in God's hands; (3) that God's will can be done; (4) that our joy may be full.
- ii. What did Christ warn the disciples to do in order to resist temptation in Matthew 26:41? (1) go to church; (2) pay their tithe; (3) watch and pray; (4) stay away from sinful places that tempt them.
- iii. James 5:16b says that a righteous man's prayers are: (1) heard by God; (2) very effective; (3) sincere and earnest; (4) much needed.

**B. POINTERS FOR PRAYER**--What guidelines do these verses give us concerning prayer?

- i. Philippians 4:6 \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. Matthew 6:7 \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. Matthew 21:22 \_\_\_\_\_

**C. PONDERING PRAYER**

- i. What is the result when we talk to God about everything? Phil. 4:7 \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. What is the major cause of unanswered prayer? Psalms 66:18 \_\_\_\_\_

iii. Who does God hear? John 9:31 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**THINK ABOUT IT: What can I pray about specifically this week? (personal need, damaged relationship, unsaved friends)**

**2. I NEED TO GROW THROUGH BIBLE STUDY**

**The Bible is the key to knowing God since He has revealed Himself through scripture.**

**A. FILL IN THE BLANKS** and learn how to study the Bible.

- i. Romans 15:4 tells us that learning the scripture gives us \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ii. 2 Timothy 3:16 tells us that all scripture comes from \_\_\_\_\_ and is good for \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ in righteousness.
  - iii. 1 Peter 1:25 assures us that the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord will last \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. MULTIPLE CHOICE:** Circle the answer that corresponds with the scripture reference.
- i. John 20:31 show the Bible was written that: (1) we could know what God expects from us; (2) we may believe on Christ and find life in His name; (3) we could read and study it; (4) God might reveal Himself to us.
  - ii. 2 Peter 1:21 informs us that the Gospel did not come by the will of man, but: (1) from prophets of God; (2) written by holy men; (3) men of God spoke as moved by the Holy Spirit; (4) men who were given revelations from God.
  - iii. In John 15:3 we find that as we read and obey the Bible, it: (1) encourages us; (2) lifts us; (3) cleanses us; (4) instructs us.

**PRODUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY HINTS**

- 1. **PRAY TO UNDERSTAND SCRIPTURE**--Prayer prepares the heart.
- 2. **READ TO RECEIVE TRUTH**--Reading broadens the vision.

3. **APPLY TO EXPERIENCE GROWTH**--Application produces the change.
4. **MEMORIZE TO RETAIN KNOWLEDGE**--Memorization conserves the effort.

**THINK ABOUT IT: How does Bible study change my life?**

**3. I NEED TO GROW THROUGH MINISTRY**

One of the greatest joys of being a Christian is to watch God use us and produce spiritual fruit through us. God uses us in ministry as "servants." A servant is someone who sees a need and assumes personal responsibility to meet that need.

**A. PREREQUISITES FOR USEFUL SERVICE**--Fill in the blanks and discover how you can be used by God.

- i. Matthew 22:37-39 tells us that there are two choices we must make if we are to be effective in useful service: (1) \_\_\_\_\_, (2) \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. In Romans 12:1-2 God calls each of us to two definite commitments: (1) \_\_\_\_\_, (2) \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. What is the prerequisite of having a great ministry for God? 1 Corinthians 13 \_\_\_\_\_

**B. PARTICIPATING IN USEFUL SERVICE**

- i. According to 1 Peter 2:9, what do all Christians--pastors, church staff, deacons, and other church members--share in common?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ii. According to 1 Peter 4:10, who has God given spiritual gifts to and what is our responsibility as good stewards? \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. Who is really the source of our desire for ministry, our strength for ministry, and our source of ministry? Philippians 2:13 \_\_\_\_\_

**C. PERSISTENCE IN OUR SERVICE**

- i. In 1 Corinthians 15:58, Paul admits that ministry is sometimes hard work. Why is it then that we should persevere? \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. According to Hebrews 6:10-12, we should be \_\_\_\_\_ in ministry, not \_\_\_\_\_.

- iii. What great benefit is there in serving Christ? John 12:26  
\_\_\_\_\_

**THINK ABOUT IT: How can I discover my spiritual gift?**

**TIME ALONE WITH GOD**

Continue to pray for your own spiritual growth and for opportunities to share your new relationship with your family and friends. The passages below should help you grow in faith this week. Read them and list three things:

- (1) **WHAT DOES IT SAY?**--write down one truth
- (2) **WHAT DOES IT SAY TO ME?**--how does your life need that truth
- (3) **WHAT SHOULD I DO?**--one "project" to live that truth in your life

These simple questions will help you understand and apply God's truths.

- DAY 1** 1 JOHN 1:5-7
- DAY 2** 1 JOHN 1:8-10
- DAY 3** 1 JOHN 2:3-6
- DAY 4** 1 JOHN 2:9-11
- DAY 5** 1 JOHN 2:15-17
- DAY 6** 1 JOHN 2:28-3:6
- DAY 7** 1 JOHN 3:7-10

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Request	Date	Date Answered
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