

1: How can I become more Christlike?

Answer: God's desire for all who know Him is for us to become more like Christ. We do this by first growing in our knowledge of Christ. We do this by first growing in our knowledge of Christ. It stands to reason that we cannot grow to be like someone we don't know.

Photo by Leo Cardelli on Pexels. So He will do everything it takes to complete His redemptive work in and through His body which is the Church. Loving God, loving people consistently, loving ourselves freely and fully is the mark of a mentally mature Christian. My question is how do we get there? How do we get to be rooted and grounded in love to a point where loving becomes normal to our lives? I must admit that it is a life long journey with the Lord and it takes persistence and perseverance to get there. These three steps will help us to grow into mental maturity: Understanding comes from the presence of God. Scriptures declare that we have the mind of Christ 1 Corinthians 2: However to possess and flow in that mindset we have to renew our natural mind. This means reflecting the same character that Christ had. Like many, I had to learn to surrender my life to the Lord by presenting my body a living sacrifice Romans. I need to continually renew the spirit of my mind and maintain a life of prayer communion or intimacy with the Lord on a daily basis. In pursuing His presence, I steadily grow into the woman He called me to become. I made a resolution in my heart to follow the Lord against all odds. As I began to do this, my love for Him grew and I was opened to the understanding of His will, purpose and plan for my life. And the more I know Him the more I love Him and love people, even those who have hurt and wronged me. Photo by Pixabay on Pexels. This is my aim as I walk with the Lord. Saying yes to Him whether I feel like it or not has become my way of life. As a result, my walk with Him is strengthened and deepened. And being found in fashion as a man He humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Just like the twenty-four elders that cast their crowns at the foot of the throne, I determine to maintain a posture of humility and the fear of the Lord in order to find grace with Him and fulfill His calling for my life. Photo by Mikes Photos on Pexels.

2: How can I become more like Christ?

Growing to Be Like Christ: Six Sessions on Discipleship and millions of other books are available for Amazon Kindle. Learn more Enter your mobile number or email address below and we'll send you a link to download the free Kindle App.

The Purpose of this series: The purpose is the same goal that Epaphras had for the Colossian Christians. He wants us to grow up. They are both in the same sentence. Listen to this verse from the Apostle Paul: I have a friend who works at the Medical Lake facility for those with developmental disabilities. I went out there one day with him and saw men and women with mature bodies, but immature minds. Sometimes it would take him a full minute. Sometimes it would take him 3 or 4 minutes. What is Spiritual Maturity? Being like Christ Eph 4: NLT According to this verse, you can define spiritual maturity in one phrase. That phrase is this: Spiritual maturity is being like Christ. Most of us want to grow. Most of us want to mature. Most of us want to be like Christ. My goal is to

Equip you with the skills you need to begin these habits Explain the tools you need to continue these habits. In order to grow we need to eat

The Bible 2. In order to grow we need to breathe

Prayer 3. In order to grow we need good spiritual hygiene

Confession of sin 4. In order to grow we need a caring family

Fellowship 5. In order to grow we need regular exercise

Service 6. In order to grow we need protection

Temptation 7. In order to grow we need to give

Stewardship D. Facts about spiritual maturity 1. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things a beginner must learn about the Scriptures. You are like babies who drink only milk and cannot eat solid food. They should be mature. Spiritual maturity is not automatic. It takes time, effort. The formula for distance. There are some Christians that have known Christ for 50 years. By now they should be mature. But they are poking along at 1 mile per hour. Or some of them have stalled out. Just sitting there, causing a traffic jam behind them. To him be glory both now and forever! There is no shortcut to spiritual growth. It takes an intentional pursuit. People try a lot of shortcuts. You have to learn to be mature. But there are some skills that you can learn that will help you grow. Neither is spiritual fitness. It takes time and trouble. When you talk about discipline you need to talk about discipleship because the two go together. The Bible teaches that mature believers are called disciples. The Bible teaches that I cannot be a disciple without being disciplined. In fact the two words go together

disciple and discipline. The Bible also teaches that the more disciplined I become the more God can use me. The mark of a disciple is cross bearing. How often am I to do this? The Bible says daily. What does it mean in a practical sense to bear our cross. What is involved in cross bearing? Whatever it takes to give Christ first place in my life. That I will commit to the habits necessary for spiritual maturity. The Bible is like an instruction manual for a car owner. Without it life is hard at best, impossible at worst. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right. Find out how often the tires need to be checked, rotated. Find out how often the oil needs to be changed. Find out how often it needs to be serviced. Find out how fast you should drive it for the first miles. If you fail to do this, you can ruin the engine and wreck the car. Hope you figure it all out! It tells us everything we need to know about Him, about us, and about life. The Bible is like a flashlight for a camper. Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path. You feel the call of nature. You step out the back door of the camper without a flashlight, and bang into the picnic table. Trip over tree roots, fall into the stream. Without a light, you stumble and get hurt or wander and get lost. Life can be like that. He gave us a flashlight. The Bible is like a weapon for a soldier. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Sometimes you get students who are eager to learn, excited, motivated. Other times you get students who are bored, disinterested, detached, unconcerned. God never intended for you to be a casualty. God wants you to be a conquering soldier, not a casualty. The Bible is like a mirror for an actor. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it

he will be blessed in what he does. Show you what you look like. This morning I spent some time in front of a

mirror. A woman would never do that. The function of a mirror is to show us accurately what we look like, so that we can make any necessary changes. The Bible is like a mirror. It shows us where we need to change. It not only points out the need, it helps us change! But a mirror does you no earthly good unless you use it! The Bible is like nutrients and water for a plant. Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither.

3: What Does It Take To Grow? | www.enganchecubano.com

Growing to Be Like Christ has 7 ratings and 0 reviews. Spiritual maturity doesn't happen by accident. The six sessions in this study equip you for the ba.

But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous. I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. You are my friends if you do what I command. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. They do not belong to this world any more than I do. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus. Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost? Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God. But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: There is no law against these things! Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him. They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity. Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. And since I, the master of the household, have been called the prince of demons, the members of my household will be called by even worse names! The world would love you as one of its own if you belonged to it, but you are no longer part of the world. I chose you to come out of the world, so it hates you. Do you remember what I told you? And if they had listened to me, they would listen to you. And in the world to come that person will have eternal life. Phil Johnson is a Pastor along with: Can that kind of faith save anyone? What good does that do? Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless. I will show you my faith by my good deeds. Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete. And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone. Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was shown to be right with God by her actions when she hid those

messengers and sent them safely away by a different road. Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. After all, the Father set me apart and sent me into the world. Your Word is Truth. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you. Holy Father, you have given me your name; now protect them by the power of your name so that they will be united just as we are. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps. He never sinned, nor ever deceived anyone. He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit. So he went and preached to the spirits in prison—those who disobeyed God long ago when God waited patiently while Noah was building his boat. Only eight people were saved from drowning in that terrible flood. And that water is a picture of baptism, which now saves you, not by removing dirt from your body, but as a response to God from a clean conscience. It is effective because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Now Christ has gone to heaven. He is seated in the place of honor next to God, and all the angels and authorities and powers accept his authority. So then, since Christ suffered physical pain, you must arm yourselves with the same attitude he had, and be ready to suffer, too. For if you have suffered physically for Christ, you have finished with sin. So we will not be afraid on the Day of Judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! But the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet entered into his glory. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

4: 10 Ways to Be More Like Christ - Beliefnet

Growing to Be Like Christ: Six Sessions on Discipleship by Rick Warren Spiritual maturity doesn't happen by accident. The six sessions in this study equip you for the basic habits of spiritual growth: relying on the Holy Spirit, cultivating time in the Bible and prayer, seeing life's obstacles as opportunities for growth, and partnering.

By Pastor Rick Warren God wants you to grow up. Sadly, millions of Christians grow older but never grow up. They are stuck in perpetual spiritual infancy, remaining in diapers and booties. The reason is because they never intended to grow. Spiritual growth is not automatic. It takes an intentional commitment. You must want to grow, decide to grow, make an effort to grow, and persist in growing. Discipleship â€” the process of becoming like Christ â€” always begins with a decision. Nothing shapes your life more than the commitments you choose to make. Your commitments can develop you or they can destroy you, but either way, they will define you. We become whatever we are committed to. Many are afraid to commit to anything and just drift through life. Others make half-hearted commitments to competing values, which leads to frustration and mediocrity. Others make a full commitment to worldly goals, such as becoming wealthy or famous, and end up disappointed and bitter. Christlikeness comes from making Christlike commitments. You must commit to living the rest of your life for the five purposes God made. Jesus summarized these purposes in the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. A great commitment and the Great Commission will make you a great Christian. Once you decide to get serious about becoming like Christ, you must begin to act in new ways. This verse shows the two parts of spiritual growth: Spiritual growth is a collaborative effort between you and the Holy Spirit. This verse, written to believers, is not about how to be saved, but how to grow. During a physical workout, you exercise to develop your body, not to get a body. Farmers work the land, not to get land, but to develop what they already have. To change your life, you must change the way you think. Behind everything you do is a thought. Every behavior is motivated by a belief, and every action is prompted by an attitude. God revealed this thousands of years before psychologists understood it: Imagine riding in a speedboat on a lake with an automatic pilot set to go east. One way is to grab the steering wheel and physically force it to head in the opposite direction that the autopilot is programmed to go. This is what happens when you try to change your life with willpower: Eventually you give up, and go off the diet. There is a better and easier way: Change your autopilot â€” the way you think. Your first step in spiritual growth is to start changing the way you think. Change always starts first in your mind. The way you think determines the way you feel, and the way you feel influences the way you act. To be like Christ you must develop the mind of Christ. There are two parts to thinking like Jesus. The first half of this mental shift is to stop thinking immature thoughts, which are self-centered and self-seeking. Babies, by nature, are completely selfish. They think only of themselves. That is immature thinking. The second half of thinking like Jesus is to start thinking maturely, which focuses on others, not yourself. In his great chapter on what real love is, Paul concluded that thinking of others is the mark of maturity: Today, many assume that spiritual maturity is measured by how much biblical knowledge and doctrine you know. The Christian life is far more than creeds and convictions; it includes conduct and character. Our deeds must be consistent with our creeds and our beliefs must be backed up with Christlike behavior. Christianity is not a philosophy, but a relationship and a life, where we practice thinking of others as Jesus did: Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Thinking of others is the heart of Christlikeness and the goal of spiritual growth. This kind of thinking is unnatural, countercultural, and rare. The only way we will learn to think this way is by filling our minds with the Word of God. Pastor Rick started The PEACE Plan to show the local church how God works through ordinary people to address the five global giants of spiritual emptiness, self-serving leadership, poverty, disease, and illiteracy. He is also the founder of Pastors.

5: Growing to be Like Christ – BCF LIFELINE

Spiritual maturity doesn't happen by accident. The six sessions in this study equip you for the basic habits of spiritual growth: relying on the Holy Spirit, cultivating time in the Bible and prayer, seeing life's obstacles as opportunities for gr.

That is especially true in the Christian life. What is the goal of the Christian life? The goal of the Christian life is to know Christ and to be like Him. Christianity is definitely not a religion of rules and rituals that we must work at keeping in order to climb the ladder to heaven. Rather, it is a personal, growing relationship with the risen, living Lord Jesus Christ that results in our growing conformity to Him. Our goal is to know Him and to become like Him. The goal of the Christian life is to know Christ. Christianity is primarily a growing relationship with the infinite God who has revealed Himself through the Lord Jesus Christ. As with all relationships, it begins with an initial meeting or introduction. So Paul met the risen Lord Jesus Christ. If we went around the room and asked husbands and wives to tell how they met their mate, we would hear many different stories. Some met each other as teenagers; others were further along in life. Others met and things took off like a rocket. For some it was love at first sight; for others, a long friendship led to romance and marriage. But for everyone, you began a personal relationship with your mate and because of it your life took a new direction that it never would have taken if you had not met. You may have met Christ as a young child, reared in a Christian home. Or, you may have met Him later in life. It may have been a traumatic situation, where in a moment of crisis you called out to Him and were saved. But one thing is certain: If you are truly a Christian, you know Jesus Christ personally. I know a bit about his wife and her upbringing as a missionary kid in China. Becoming a Christian requires that you know some things about Jesus Christ. You need to know who He claimed to be, eternal God in human flesh. You must know some of the things He did and taught. You need to understand that He died on the cross for your sins, and that He was raised bodily from the dead. But beyond these facts, you need to know Christ personally. That relationship begins at the moment you recognize that your sins have separated you from God and that you need a Savior. Letting go of all human merit, you call upon the Lord to be merciful to you based on the merits of the death of His Son Jesus. Your object of trust for commending yourself to God shifts from self to Christ. You have met Jesus Christ personally. You must spend time together, getting to know one another through conversation and shared experiences. You learn about her history, her family, her likes and dislikes, her hopes for the future, etc. If you do something to offend her, you ask her forgiveness and learn to work through difficulties in a harmonious way. It requires cultivation and that requires time. It never ceases to amaze me how a young man and a young woman can be extremely busy, but when they meet and things click between them, suddenly they can find many hours every week to be together. What were they doing to fill all those hours before? Whatever it was, it gets shoved aside so that they can pursue this new relationship. Do you often make time to spend with the Lord? Or, it becomes your duty to have a quiet time, so you get out your Bible, grimace, and swallow a chapter a day to keep the devil away. We cannot know the Triune God except as He has chosen to reveal Himself to us. He is infinite and altogether apart from us. We can never come to know Him through philosophy or speculation. We can only know Him as He has chosen to reveal Himself. The Old Testament points ahead to Christ; the New Testament tells us of His life, His death for our sins, and His resurrection and present reign in heaven. It also tells us of His coming again and future kingdom. It expounds on His teaching and reveals His will for His people. We can never know Him fully because He is infinite and we are finite. In fact, you can read and study your Bible all your life and never get to know Jesus in an intimate way! If you want Jesus to reveal Himself to you, He says that you must both have and keep His commandments. So the goal of Bible study is always growing obedience so that we can get to know the Lord Jesus better. This leads to the second part of our goal as Christians: The goal of the Christian life is to be like Christ. When you met your future mate, fell in love and got married, your life was permanently changed. You would never be the same again. It is the same, only much more so, when you meet Jesus as Savior and Lord. He marks you for life, and the more time you spend growing to know Him, the more you are different. To be like Christ requires knowing the power of His resurrection. Paul came to know the power of the resurrected Lord when he was struck down on the Damascus Road. These are not things that

can be accomplished through human persuasion or through a self-improvement program. They require the same mighty power of God that raised Jesus from the dead. That same resurrection power is necessary to sustain the believer as he walks in victory over sin. Paul prays for the Ephesians 1: We experience this power as we walk moment by moment yielded to and in dependence on the indwelling Holy Spirit. To be like Christ requires knowing the fellowship of His sufferings. Our Savior came to suffer for our sins on the cross. His entire ministry was marked by misunderstanding, opposition, betrayal, and death. While we can never enter into His sufferings in the same way that He suffered on the cross, there is a sense in which we can never be like Him if we do not go through suffering and learn to entrust our souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right 1 Pet. It means that He had never experienced the test of obedience until He suffered. His suffering for our sins on the cross was the ultimate test of His submission to the will of the Father. If we are to be like Him, we must also learn to obey God through suffering. Unlike Jesus, we have the powerful force of indwelling sin to contend with. God uses suffering to burn off the dross and purify us. But, we have to cooperate with Him by humbling ourselves under His mighty hand when we go through trials, trusting His sovereignty over our suffering, and casting all our cares on Him 1 Pet. Fellowship points to closeness or intimacy. Though few of us American Christians know it, those who suffer because of their faith in Christ know a special intimacy with Him. I believe the fourth was Jesus Christ who stood with them in their hour of trial. They knew the fellowship of His sufferings. Paul knew this fellowship. When he was preaching in corrupt Corinth, he was afraid. One night as I was getting into bed, feeling somewhat discouraged, I was suddenly impressed with the reference, Acts I was vaguely familiar with the text, but I had not been reading in Acts lately to remind me of it. I opened my Bible and read those words that directly applied to my situation. And I was flooded with joy at being able to enter, just a little bit, into the fellowship of His sufferings. To be like Christ requires being conformed to His death. But it also has another dimension, which Paul describes in many other places, that of dying to self and sin through the cross of Christ. But, we have to live experientially what is true of us positionally. This is what Jesus meant when He said that whoever follows Him must deny self and take up his cross daily Luke 9: Jesus always lived by denying temptations to live in His own power or for His own ends. To the degree that we learn to die to self and sin by being conformed to His death, to the same degree we grow to be like Him. To be like Christ will be realized in the resurrection from the dead. There are two possible interpretations, and it is difficult to decide between them. Paul may be expressing his hope that he will fully realize what it means in this life to experience what he has just stated, namely, the resurrection life of Christ being lived out fully through him. In favor of this view is the preceding and following context, where Paul says that he has not yet attained it, but presses on. The problem with this view is, if Paul had not attained to this experience after 25 years as a Christian, who can? We will then share in His glory throughout eternity. But whatever this verse means, other verses make it clear that the process of sanctification will be completed. We will be like Him, totally apart from sin, sharing in His glory throughout eternity Rom. Is that your goal? If it is, you should have thought about it this past week.

6: Growing In Christ - CPH's Sunday School

Spiritual maturity doesn't happen by accident. The six sessions in this study equip you for the basic habits of spiritual growth: relying on the Holy Spirit, cultivating time in the Bible and prayer, seeing life's obstacles as opportunities for growth, and partnering with Christians who are committed to supporting your growth.

How can I become more like Christ? We do this by first growing in our knowledge of Christ. The deeper our knowledge of Christ, the deeper our understanding of Him, and the more like Him we become. Among other reasons, we are to know and understand Christ so that we will be secure in the faith. The Apostle Paul reiterates this truth in Ephesians 4: Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Of course, knowledge alone will not produce a Christlike character. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Luke sums it up best when he describes what Jesus told His disciples: For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it" Luke 9: The cross was an instrument of death, and Jesus encourages us to take up our cross in order to put to death our old sin nature upon it. God wants us to forget about this world and all its temporary pleasures and be obedient to His Word. Jesus is the living Word John 1: Therefore, conforming to the Word of God is conforming to Christ. It is important to realize that becoming more like Christ starts by receiving Him as Savior from our sins. Then we grow in our knowledge of God by reading the Bible daily, studying it, and being obedient to what it says. This process causes us to grow and occurs over an entire lifetime in Christ. Only when we have entered Heaven for eternity with God does this process reach its culmination.

7: Discipleship Is All About Growing Up to Be Like Christ

Some eight days after these sayings, He took along Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while He was praying, the appearance of His face became different, and His clothing became white and gleaming.

Growing up in Christ What does it take to grow up and become spiritually mature? Why do some Christians not grow as they should? People understand the concept of growth in the physical development of humans, and we know why it is important. Babies are immature physically and mentally, but we expect them to develop. My best buddy in high school did not grow and might have been nearly a midget. But in his senior year, doctors gave him shots to make him grow. Spiritual growth is a similar concept but is far more important. Growth is development or improvement toward a goal called "maturity" or, in the Bible, "perfection". When one is "born again" as a child of God, he is spiritually immature. As time passes, he should develop the qualities or abilities which the Bible says characterize the mature. A congregation matures as individual members mature. Many Scriptures describe the need to grow and mature spiritually: Many problems result when members fail to grow: The purpose of this lesson is to study the steps each Christian should take to grow spiritually. Just as a baby needs to do certain things to grow physically, so Christians need certain kinds of activities to grow spiritually. Everyone wants them to develop new abilities. Parents sometimes use this to encourage children. Some seem to like being spiritual babies. Others feed you, clothe you, change your diaper. But being a baby is not the goal of life. We are born babies so we can grow up and be productive and useful. Likewise, we are born again, so we can become mature Christians, actively serving the Lord. Otherwise, we have not accomplished our purpose for becoming children of God. Some members who once wanted to grow, may lose that desire. They may start off on fire for the Lord, but lose their zeal. They develop a spirit of indifference or negligence. Others develop a level of maturity and stagnate. They are satisfied, thinking no more growth is needed. The Scriptures teach that growth is always needed. He forgot past achievements and failures and pressed on to greater accomplishments. But that very night he denied Him three times. Christians never reach the point we are so mature that we cannot fall. They have no desire to work and serve to the full extent of their ability. When people develop a burning hunger and thirst to work for the Lord, then they will develop the other steps they need to grow. Do you have that burning desire to accomplish more for the Lord? Have you set specific goals of work you want to accomplish for God, improvements to make, new levels to reach? A child cannot grow physically without proper food. Good parents are concerned about proper nutrition. They want children to eat what is good, not bad for them. We are touched by pictures of children starving due to poverty. Most children WANT nourishment. Babies cry for food. Once as a child I got so hungry I cried, and my mother felt really bad. We want it every day, regularly, several times a day. Scriptures show the need for regular nourishment. Time and again members fall away or are spiritual midgets because they do not eat properly. Children and adults need physical food regularly, and get very upset without it. I never ceased to be amazed when the church provides a spiritual feast, and members choose to do other things. How often do we miss the regular meals provided for our bellies? Take this test to check your spiritual nourishment. How much time did you spend this week watching TV? How much time watching sports or entertainment, or reading the paper, magazines, etc.? How much time did you spend on some hobby or outside interest, that may not be immoral but is not necessary? How many hours did you spend studying your Bible? How many services of the church did you attend? How many did you miss that you could have attended? Which do you nourish the best: Developing skills requires continual repetition: Athletes run, lift weights, and practice hour after hour in order to grow strong and develop endurance. A man once had an apartment next to a professional cello player. He thought it must be exciting to play in an orchestra. Then he listened as the man practiced the scales, exercises, and songs endlessly. Children practice skills over and over to learn them. Children learning to walk try again and again. They are proud to learn a new word, then they use it till they drive you crazy! They want to play the same thing over and over: Parents encourage children to repeat what they must learn: Growth requires exercise as well as nourishment. Get in and dig. To learn to PRAY, do it over and over. Kids may not be good at activities at first, but parents encourage them to do it over and over.

Likewise, older members must encourage the newer ones to use their talents. They may not be skilled at first, but they learn by doing. We need to encourage teachers, preachers, and song leaders. They need the practice! It is progress and development as time passes. Several important lessons follow: Children do not become full-grown instantaneously. At birth they are so small you can hold them in a little basket. Soon they are outgrowing new clothes every month. But it takes time. Sometimes children become impatient. It will come soon enough. Likewise spiritually, do not expect maturity overnight. Some new-born Christians want to know everything and do everything right away. Yet they want to be just like the mature members - and want other members to treat them with the same respect that they do mature members - before they have taken time to grow. Sometimes older members are impatient with new members. Remember that people who may be mature today did not get that way overnight. It took years of study and practice. And new converts will not become mature overnight. It will take time. New members should not get discouraged and give up. Older members should not be impatient or overly demanding. Remember how our children took time to grow, and how we had to show patience with their immature ways as they grew. But growth will come as long as people are trying and we give them time. Children make many mistakes and must often be told they are wrong. How often does a child fall while learning to walk? They fall again and again, gathering bumps and bruises. Parents are continually correcting, instructing, and punishing, till we almost feel sorry for the kids.

8: Growing in Christ

Spiritual maturity doesn't happen by accident. The six sessions in this study equip you for the basic habits of spiritual growth: relying on the Holy Spirit, cultivating time in the Bible and prayer, seeing life's obstacles as opportunities.

Growing in Christ Growing In Christ - Appetite Growing in Christ is a life-long journey where every experience along the way offers to enrich us. We are given opportunities to grow, to develop a Christ-like nature that coincides with that of our Heavenly Father. God created our innermost being in a fearful and wonderful fashion. As God shaped us, we were given the deposit of divine life Psalm Either we try to make ourselves grow in holiness and fail miserably, or we must yield and cooperate with the glorious intentions of God. To him be glory both now and forever! As with all newborns, our desire for nourishment becomes fervent and frequent. The goodness of God cannot be tasted in a cursory manner. We must see, hear, and touch; to truly taste the graciousness of Christ. In growing, we learn that nothing is more agreeable to our soul and spirit than Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life. As we profess Jesus to be our Lord and Savior, we take Him into every relationship and in every capacity in which we act, including our appetite for Him. David took great pleasure in the Word of God. Having a spiritual taste to read the Bible daily reflects an inner savor and relish of divine things. Diet is not simply about eating less; it is about conscientiously ingesting more of the right thingsâ€”less artificial, superficial; more authentic, i. It is in the Word of Truth that we grow and are nourished by the Lord. The spiritual food that we receive is then at home in us and remains as He is in us John Growing In Christ â€” Adversity Spiritual growth results from trusting God, especially in times of adversity. The psalmist, David, understood that God guards and keeps all those whom He saves, preserving their eternal lives for His heavenly kingdom Psalm A life of faith will enable you to trust God increasingly with every difficulty you encounter. With each faithful prayer we are drawn closer to the Source of spiritual joy and peace. Believers who are entitled to the greatest joys frequently must endure the greatest sufferings. Jesus Christ suffered more than any of His disciples were asked to suffer Isaiah Like the first disciples, we will grow as we discover that the testing of one grace produces another. Anxieties and insecurities vanish as our steadfastness guides us nearer to maturity James 1: We will find ourselves growing in Christ as we cultivate the ability to release all of our burdens to God. Even the best Christians tend to struggle under the burden of excessive worry. Jesus reminds us that we are told not to fear for what tomorrow holds Matthew 6: Each day brings its own burden of cares and concerns. It also brings with it its own strength and supply. Growing In Christ â€” Affirmation and Acceptance When was the last time that you received uplifting confirmation from a supervisor, a close friend, or even a family member? Perhaps you were surprised, encouraged, and even humbled. Every living being on earth craves affirmation. God also wants us to grow by affirming our acceptance through Christ Jesus. It is only through Jesus that we share all the promises of the Bible, giving us the confidence and assurance that promotes our growing in Christ Ephesians 2: We will grow in Christ as we imitate God in mercy, holiness, and above all love John Growing in Christ requires a continual repentance, constant faith in, and thankfulness for the love of our Redeemer Romans Believers who are joined to Christ are one spirit. Power that comes from the Spirit of God nourishes our inner being best 2 Corinthians Without unity, our inner being as well as our external members would cease to function or grow. Growing in Christ reveals a maturity of a perfectly balanced character in Him. God , the Father, sent His only Son to satisfy that judgment for those who believe in Him. Jesus , the creator and eternal Son of God, who lived a sinless life, loves us so much that He died for our sins, taking the punishment that we deserve, was buried , and rose from the dead according to the Bible. If you truly believe and trust this in your heart, receiving Jesus alone as your Savior , declaring, " Jesus is Lord ," you will be saved from judgment and spend eternity with God in heaven. What is your response?

9: 32 Bible verses about Becoming More Like Christ

Bible Verses about Becoming More Like Christ. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus

Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the.

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