



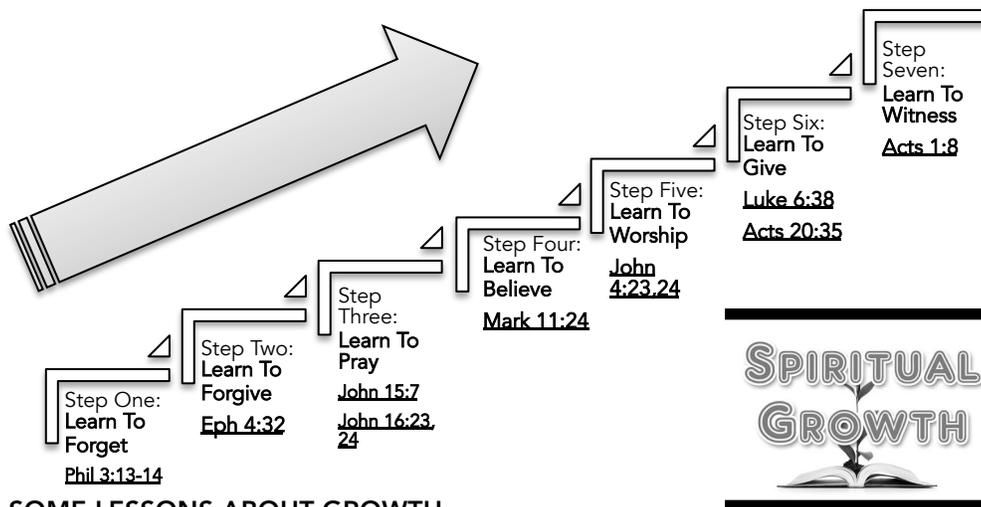
"Triumphant In Christ, Victorious In Life"

"TWCC Mission 2018 – Part 2 (GROW)" – (Sermon Handout) 1/21/2018

- **OUR GREAT MISSION AND TASK FOR 2018 IS TO: Go. Grow. And Give.**
- **2 Peter 3:18 (NKJV)** – “but **grow** in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. “**Ephesians 4:15 (NLT)** – “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.

GROW IN WHAT?

- SPIRITUALLY by Growing in our Love Walk; our Faith Life and Walk and our Patience (Perseverance/Cheerful Endurance) through every Trial, Temptation and Trouble.
 - **Love Walk:** Walking in Forgiveness; Walking in Love; Demonstrating an _____ Love and more _____ in Loving One Another with the Love of God (**John 13:34 -35; John 15:12,13, 17; 1 John 4:7 - 11**)
 - **Faith Life and Walk:** Our Beliefs System’s Investment and our behavior in line with the Word of God; Our believing, speaking and acting upon the Word of God. When your FAITH _____: (1) Satan’s dominion over us wanes; (2) Circumstances become less formidable and (3) Fear is destroyed.
 - **Patience in Trails/Trouble/Temptations:** Our cheerful endurance, consistency, and steadfast commitment to Who We are in Christ, Who We are in the Body Christ. Having the faith to step out and also the faithfulness to stick it out.
- Friends in the context of the Local Church, all of us are provided with both the _____ and the _____ for GROWTH.
- Healthy _____ and GREATNESS is rarely the product of absent-minded labor.
- In our GROWTH Mission for 2018, we as leaders here at TWCC endeavor to provide both a _____ and MOTIVATION for growth, in order to give everyone the incentive they need to progress beyond what is normal and comfortable.
- **SEVEN FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH:**



- **SOME LESSONS ABOUT GROWTH:**

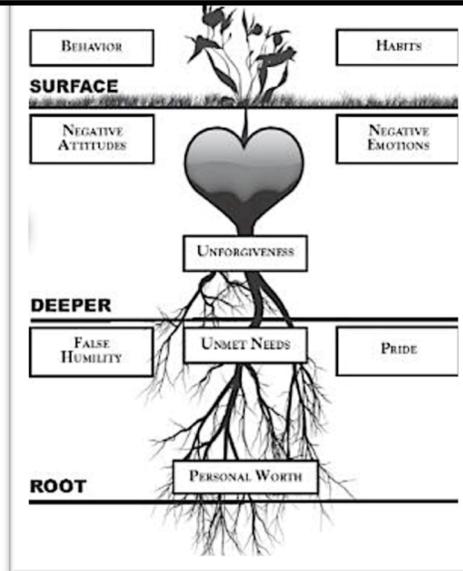
- Lesson 1: Growth is _____.
- Lesson 2: Most people grow to the level of their _____ instead of to the size of their _____. The sad reality of this is that without problems, many people would be without progress.
 - **THE JONAH PROCESS**: (Reference **the Book of Jonah**)
 - 1st – Those people who *hurt enough* that they have to change.
 - 2nd – Others that *pray enough* that they are able to change.
 - 3rd – Those that *grow enough* that they want to change.
 - We must get to this 3rd point in the Jonah Process, where we want to change and are constantly striving to fulfill our potential.
 - **Our Lord Jesus challenges us to be different, and to grow to the size of the potential He has placed inside us.**
- Lesson 3: The _____ of your foundation determines the **HEIGHT** of your blessing in life.
- Lesson 4: Growth is not dependent upon your _____.
- Lesson 5: Career growth coupled with personal growth brings fulfillment.
- Lesson 6: Leaders and Members who aren't growing frustrate others in the organization. Refusing to grow was a "warning" to the Church in Hebrews. God expects us to grow! (**Read Hebrews 5:12 – 14**)
 - **Levels of Spiritual Growth**:
 - (1) _____ – Characterized by Innocence, Ignorance, Irritability (**1 Peter 2:2**)
 - (2) **CHILDHOOD** – Characterized by Unsteadiness, Unreliable, Curiosity, Talkativeness (**Ephesians 4:14**)
 - (3) _____ – Characterized by Esteeming earthly things lightly (you place greater value on spiritual things verses earthly, natural things); a deadness to censure (criticism) or praise; and an ability to recognize God at work (sound discernment, spiritual sensitivity and godly wisdom). (**Romans 8:14**)
- Lesson 7: If you don't grow, your organization will outgrow you. **We want to continue growing not for the sake of numbers, but for the sake of the people that those numbers represent.**
- Lesson 8: Growth should occur on a daily basis.

HOW DO WE START GROWING?

1 Peter 2:2 (NKJV) – "as newborn babes, *desire* the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,"

- Friends, I suggest to you that we must have the (1) _____ (2) the _____ and (3) the _____ to grow healthy and intentionally this year and every season of our lives.
- **1st - DESIRE**: You got to want to grow; your desire should fuel your decision, your demonstrated behavior and habits and determined attitude to GROW!
- What if you don't demonstrate the behavior or the habits of GROWTH? (Illustration #1)

What is at the Root of an Unhealthy Heart and Soul?

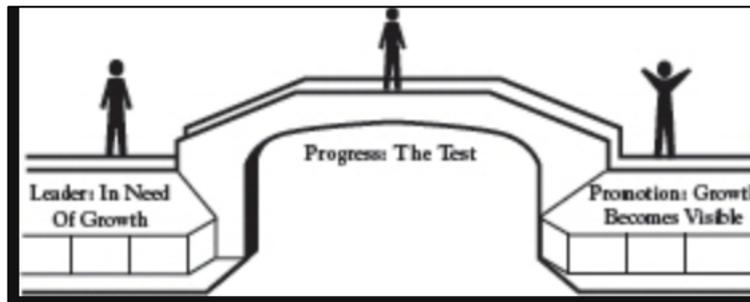


- 2nd – _____: Diligence simply means hardwork! **DILIGENCE INVOLVES INVESTING YOUR ABILITIES, STRENGTH AND ALL YOU HAVE INTO THE PURSUIT OF YOUR MISSION! Read 2 Peter 1:5 – 10 (NKJV)**
- 3rd – _____: It takes discipline to be and become distinguished! Motivation gets you going, but Discipline keeps you growing! **SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES ARE THOSE PRACTICES FOUND SCRIPTURE THAT PROMOTE SPIRITUAL GROWTH AMONG BELIEVERS IN THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.** They are habits of devotion, habits of experiential New Testament Christianity in behavior and practice.
 - Some aspects of Spiritual Disciplines:
 - 1st – _____ and Interpersonal Spiritual Disciplines. The Bible prescribes both personal and interpersonal spiritual disciplines.
 - 2nd – Spiritual Disciplines are _____. They are not attitudes. Disciplines are practices. Spiritual disciplines are things you do. They are not character qualities. They are not graces. They are not the fruit of the Spirit. They are things you do.
 - Examples: (1) Read and feed the Bible (2) Meditating on Scripture (3) Studying the Word of God (4) Fasting (5) Prayer (7) Worship and Praise (8) Serve (9) Learn, and so forth. These are activities.
 - **NOW THE GOAL OF PRACTICING ANY GIVEN DISCIPLINE IS NOT ABOUT _____ AS MUCH AS IT IS ABOUT _____: FIRST BEING LIKE JESUS, AND SECONDLY, BEING WITH JESUS.** But the biblical way to grow in being more like Jesus is through the rightly motivated doing of the biblical, spiritual disciplines. **1 Timothy 4:7 (NLV)** – “Have nothing to do with foolish stories old women tell. **Keep yourself growing** in God-like living.”
 - **1 Timothy 4:7 (NASB)** – “But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, **discipline yourself** for the purpose of godliness”

- 3rd – Spiritual Discipline Activities are _____ and Detailed by the Word of God. (**Read 2 Timothy 3:15 - 16**)

HOW WILL I KNOW I'M GROWING?

- Life's _____ reveal a person's _____ and _____. Nearly every moment of life is a TEST. However, there are "seasons of testing" that can be *identified, understood, and passed* if we are alert.
- The enemy of our soul brings: TRIALS, TROUBLE and TEMPTATIONS. But God, does not BRING or CAUSE the TRIALS, TROUBLE or TEMPTATIONS, but instead USES them as a TEST to reveal our potential and maturity. He does for our *good* and for our *growth!*
- Satan's *brings* these trials, temptations, and trouble to us in our life's experience with the intent it to make us _____; but God *uses* them to make us _____. Satan means them to bring us PERIL; God *uses* them to bring our PROMOTION. Hence, when we pass the test, we make PROGRESS, and when we don't pass we don't progress (GROW).
- A Definition of Testing: **AN _____ THAT CHALLENGES US TO DEMONSTRATE OUR POTENTIAL AND MATURITY.** (Illustration #2 below).



- **Tests Reveal Three Truths:**
 - **#1 – INWARD _____**: The test reveals you have responded poorly at an increasing rate and you have failed to act obediently.
 - **#2 – INWARD _____**: The test reveals you have not matured, but have become stagnant in your growth. For example, delayed Forgiveness; delayed or partial Obedience. **Read 1 Corinthians 10:13 (NKJV)**
 - **#3 – INWARD _____**: The test reveals you have grown and have responded better than ever. **Jesus our Lord and Savior is the shining best example. (Philippians 2:5 – 10; Hebrews 2:9 – 18; Hebrews 12:1 – 3)**

NOTES:
