



- **Consistent** small **choices** keep us true to a desired direction.

Wise choices will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe. Proverbs 2:11 (NLT)

The challenges we face:

- Our choices tend to be **inconsistent**.
- Our choices are **emotional** responses.
- I choose to **grow** spiritually.

11 Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers.

12 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.

13 This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-13

He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. Colossians 1:28

Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity. Hebrews 6:1

- We all need to **grow**.
- God designed you to **grow** spiritually.

For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to him—and all along he knew who would—should become like his Son... Romans 8:29 (TLB)

Spiritual Growth is a **natural** process for every Christ follower.

Natural doesn't mean:

- Doesn't mean it happens without our **attention**.

Truth is:

Spiritual growth is a **partnership** project.

Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him. Philippians 2:12-13 (NLT)

God works **in** us, and we **act** on His leading.

Natural doesn't mean:

- Doesn't mean it happens **instantly**.

Truth is:

It is a process that takes **time**.

6 And now just as you trusted Christ to save you, trust him, too, for each day's problems; live in vital union with him. 7 Let your roots grow down into him and draw up nourishment from him. See that you go on growing in the Lord, and become strong and vigorous in the truth you were taught. Let your lives overflow with joy and thanksgiving for all he has done. 8 Don't let others spoil your faith and joy with their philosophies, their wrong and shallow answers built on men's thoughts and ideas, instead of what Christ has said. Colossians 2:6-8 (TLB)

Natural doesn't mean:

- Doesn't mean it happens **constantly**.

6 And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns. Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

Spiritual Growth is:

- Growth is the process of practicing **obedience**.

Don't fool yourself into thinking that you are a listener when you are anything but, letting the Word go in one ear and out the other. Act on what you hear! James 1:22-23

- Growth is also the process of **becoming**.

The goal of maturity:

Becoming more like **Jesus**.

...(WE) should become like his Son... Romans 8:29 (TLB)

Our plan for Maturity:

- Respond to God with **obedience**.
- Commit to God that you will **partner** with Him.
- Schedule **spiritual disciplines** in your life.
- Commit to spiritual community for **accountability**.

Additional Notes:



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain.
- In your own words - How important is spiritual growth and what does that mean?
- What is difficult about spiritual growth to you?
- What does it mean that spiritual growth is a partnership with God? What is our responsibility in growth?
- Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-3; What in this scripture stands out to you? How did Paul know they were not mature?
- Why does growth require time?
- Why does growth require obedience?
- In your own words, what does it mean to be like Jesus?
- Do you have a plan for maturity? How has your growth been over the past year?
- What are some spiritual disciplines that enable us to grow spiritually?
- How does accountability help us grow spiritually?

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Today's Talk..



I choose to grow spiritually

Sunday, January 19th, 2025

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