

# Time To Grow Up

## Seven Habits of Growing Christians – Jonathan Combs September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – Ephesians 4:11-15

Ephesians 4:11-15 (NIV) It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <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. <sup>14</sup>Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

### How to grow spiritually:

#### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ of spiritual life in Christ.

Ephesians 1:13 (ESV) In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.

John 1:12 (NIV) Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God--

Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV) For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

#### 2. Understand that spiritual growth is \_\_\_\_\_.

Hebrews 5:12-13 (NLT) You have been Christians a long time now, and you ought to be teaching others. 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. And a person who is living on milk isn't very far along in the Christian life and doesn't know much about doing what is right.

#### 3. Recognize that spiritual growth is \_\_\_\_\_.

Romans 6:11-14 (NLT) So you should consider yourselves dead to sin and able to live for the glory of God through Christ Jesus. Do not let sin control the way you live; ... Instead, give yourselves completely to God since you have been given new life. And use your whole body as a tool to do what is right for the glory of God. Sin is no longer your master, for you are no longer subject to the law, which enslaves you to sin. Instead, you are free by God's grace.

Luke 16:10 (ESV) "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much.

#### **4. \_\_\_\_\_ that help form Christian maturity.**

Proverbs 8:5 (GN) Learn to be mature.

1 Timothy 4:7 (NLT) ... Spend your time and energy in training yourself for spiritual fitness.

Luke 9:23 (NIV) If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

1 Peter 2:2-3 (NIV) Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.