

Series: The Purpose of the Church

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GROW TOWARD MATURITY IN JESUS CHRIST

Luke 8:14 *The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, **and they do not mature.***

Ephes. 4:11-13 *...so that the body of Christ may be built up 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.***

Six "Myths" about spiritual maturity...

Myth #1 - Spiritual growth is _____ once you are born again

Heb. 5:12 " . . . though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again"

The truth: Spiritual growth is _____.
Philippians 2:12-13

Myth #2 - Spiritual growth is _____, and maturity is attainable by only a _____.

The truth: Spiritual growth is very _____.

1 Timothy 4:7: "Take time and trouble to keep yourself spiritually fit." (Phillips)
Colossians 3:9-10

Myth #3 - Spiritual maturity can occur _____ if you find the right _____.

The truth: Spiritual growth is a _____ that takes _____.

Ephesians 4:15 *Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things **grow up into him** who is the Head, that is, Christ.*

Myth #4 -Spiritual maturity is measured by what you _____.

The truth: Spiritual maturity is demonstrated more by _____ than by _____.

James 2:18 "Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do"

Matthew 7:16 "By their fruit you will recognize them"

Myth #5 - All you need is _____ to grow.

The truth: It takes a variety of _____ with God to produce spiritual maturity.

Deuteronomy 11:2 (TEV) says, "Remember today what you have learned about the LORD through your experiences with him"

Proverbs 20:30 (TEV) "Sometimes it takes a painful experience to make us change our ways."

Myth #6 - Spiritual growth is a _____ and _____ matter.

The truth: Christians need _____ to grow.

Hebrews 10:24-25 says, "Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds."

Hebrew 6:1 (LB) Let us stop going over the same old ground again and again, always teaching those first lessons about Christ. Let us go on instead to other things and become mature in our understanding, as strong Christians ought to be.

Personal Goals from God's Word...

1. I will _____ spiritual growth.
1 Peter 2:2
2. I will _____ on spiritual growth.
Ephesians 4:15
3. I will seek to _____ through my spiritual growth.
Colossians 1:10
4. I will mature by growing in my _____ with God
Colossians 2:19