

When Will You GROW UP?

Deciding this is the year to grow deeper

Hebrews 5:11-14 · Jake Harless



➤ If you had a spiritual measuring stick, where would we see your _____?

Marks of a Spiritually Immature Christian...

1. They are _____ to the Word of God— 11 *“slow to learn”*
 - Growth takes...._____.
 - Growth takes...._____.
 - Growth takes...._____.
2. They are unable to _____ the Word of God- 12-13
– *“you ought to be teachers”*
 - Growth takes...._____.
 - Growth takes...._____.

✓ Personal litmus test: Can I explain....?

 1. _____ – Isaiah 64:6
 2. _____ – Galatians 2:16

3. _____ – Romans 6:4
4. _____ – Acts 6:6; 13:3
5. _____ – John 11:25
6. _____ – Matthew 10:28; Revelation 20

Marks of a Spiritually Mature Christian....

1. Growing with _____ - *“solid food”*
 - True or false: I am worshipping God personally during daily devotions.
 - True or false: I am worshipping God communally with other believers each week.
2. Connecting with _____ - *“by constant use have trained themselves”*
 - True or false: I am involved in a Growth Group or weekly bible study
 - True or false: I am involved by using my God-given gifts, talents, & resources for His glory
3. Serving with _____ - *“distinguish good from evil”*
 - True or false: I am assisting in a ministry or mission evangelism outside of church.
 - True or false: I am assisting others to strengthen their continued growth and relationship with Jesus.

➤ Will this be the year that I'll _____ with Jesus?

Discussion Guide

12/31/2011 - 1/1/2012

“When Will You Grow Up? -

Deciding this is the Year to Grow Deeper”

Hebrews 5:11-14



Conversation: *Getting in touch with each other...*

1. In what ways can we still behave like spiritual babies? What steps can we take to help ourselves and others to grow up to be mature adults?
2. What are some indicators of spiritual maturity for a believer?
3. How can our church provide a safe & comfortable environment for people who want to strengthen their relationship with God and others?

Consideration: *Grasping the issues... Read Hebrews 5:11-14*

1. Consider the balance of Scripture in its warnings that we need not just a good foundation, but also to build well on it (see 1 Cor. 3:10–15)?
2. Define and illustrate these words: stagnant; grow; immature; mature.
3. What specific steps can you take to stimulate growth in your life?
4. In what areas of your life do you see the need for greater growth and what specific action will you take this year to foster growth in these areas of your life?

5. Suggest some specific, practical ways we (individually and as a church) may push one another on to spiritual growth and maturity as well?
6. When it becomes necessary to confront and warn others of spiritual danger, what guidelines should govern our confrontation of others? How would you answer the person that says we should not judge the spiritual state of other?
7. Given that the Hebrew writer gave specific examples of the elementary teachings of Christ (6:1-2), what evidences (and results) have you observed of the dumbing-down of Christian doctrine?
8. Know that God produces growth and gives the increase, what practical difference should this make in our efforts in evangelism, discipleship, and personal growth?

Connection: *Taking this challenge home...*

1. In thinking about who has helped you most in your spiritual growth and the practical benefits you gained as result, ask God to bring new believers into your life so that you can minister to them as well.
2. Look for ways and opportunities this coming year where you can practically get alongside someone so that you can be able to give help & encouragement when needed.
3. Hebrews 5:14 presents a very practical training program for staying healthy. Three essentials are covered: nourishing food, sufficient exercise, and keen discernment. Interestingly, the book of James develops these same topics. Look up the passages listed below, and prayerfully let God speak to your heart and listen to Him as you become aware of these essentials and how they may enable to grow even closer to our God:
 1. Nourishing Food (Jas 1:19-25)
 2. Sufficient Exercise (Jas 2:14-26)
 3. Keen Discernment (Jas 3:13-18)