
❖SERMON NOTES ❖

Sunday, October 2, 2016

“STEPPING UP TO SPIRITUAL GROWTH”

(Acts 2:41-46)

Today in our *Be the Church* Challenge we're looking at a third core devotion of the church – spiritual growth. As followers of Christ, God's plan for our lives is to grow us to be more like Jesus. A core purpose of a Bible-teaching church is to create growth opportunity. What is your next step in spiritual growth?

“Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving” (Colossians 2:6-7, ESV).

1. Life is about _____ (Colossians 2:7).

2. Growing is about _____ (Romans 12:2).

3. We were born to _____ (John 15:5-8).

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“I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake. I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, children, because you know the Father. I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one” (1 John 2:12–14, ESV).

“Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving” (Colossians 2:6-7, ESV).

1. Life is about growing (Colossians 2:7).

“And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him” (Romans 12:1, NLT).

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Romans 12:2, ESV).

2. Growing is about transformation (Romans 12:2).

“I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples” (John 15:5-8, ESV).

3. We were born to reproduce (John 15:5-8).