

“Raising the Bar – Grow”

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Growing and getting older are not necessarily the same thing. We need to be committed to growing.

- Ephesians 4:14-15
- 2 Peter 3:18
- Romans 12:2a
- 2 Corinthians 3:18

A Big Problem

- Becoming a Christian is only the _____.
Jesus called it being “born again”.
- Many Christians aren’t growing. As a result, many churches experience a _____.
- Christians need to be people who leave _____,
not _____.

Growing: Becoming the “me” that God wants me to be.

Some different “me’s” that inhabit the same body:

- The “me” I _____ to be.
- The “me” I think I should be.
- The “me” other people want me to be.
- The “me” I’m _____ God wants me to be.
- The “me” God wants me to be.

Some Basics of Growing

Foundational Realities

- We become Christians through _____. Now we have to learn to _____ in grace.
- Growing up is _____.
- We are all different.

Key Components

- Being personally engaged with the _____
- Being personally engaged in _____
- Being engaged in giving and receiving support
- Being engaged in _____
(How goes your walk?)
- Being engaged with the _____
- Being engaged in a _____ hope
 1. 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3
 2. Revelations 21:3-5

Expectations

- As we grow, the expectation level will be raised.
- It is unrealistic to expect _____. It is appropriate to expect commitment, engagement, and growth.
- The key question is not “Am I getting older?”, but “_____?”.

Let’s get growing!

Personal Commitments to Growing

1. _____
2. _____

Talk It Over

Talking through the ideas presented in Sunday's message helps us apply God's word to our individual lives. These questions and thoughts are designed to help you put His words into action in your life this week. We encourage you to talk these over with other Christians that you are close to.

What is your main "take-away" from this week? How do you plan to live that out?

What are some the areas in your life where God is calling you to grow?

How would you define growing in Christ?

What have been some of the hindrances to growth in your life?

Do you think the church (in general) is experiencing a failure to thrive? If so, why?

What can you do to make Redeemer a more "thriving" church?

Who are some people you go to for encouragement? Who are some people you are trying to encourage in their walk with Christ?

How would you describe the "connection" between endurance and hope?

"How goes your walk?"

Read over the various scriptures presented in this week's sermon and think about what God might be teaching you. (Note: these might be different than what was presented in the sermon

