

The Model Church

Acts 2:42-47

MAIN IDEA: Growth is God's plan for every believer. As Christians, we are called to continuously learn, discover more, and teach about God.

1. When it comes to teaching and learning:
 - a. We are not done
 - b. Growth is God's plan for every believer
 - c. Spiritual growth is a conscious decision
2. DEC is committed to teach us:
 - a. Christ's commands
 - b. Christ's promises
 - c. Sound doctrine

Compare and contrast spiritual growth with salvation. How does one affect the other?

Why is it important to follow Christ's commands? (John 14:21, 1 John 2:3, 1 John 5:3, Matthew 11: 28-30) What are the results when we follow His commands? What are the results when we don't?

Name some of God's promises. (Numbers 23:19, 2 Peter 1:3-4, 2 Corinthians 1: 19-20)
How are God's promises different from our promises? Give an example.

Why are teachers judged by a higher standard? (James 3:1) What happens when the Church fails to teach sound doctrine? (2 Timothy 4:3-4, Ephesians 4:14) Provide examples.

PERSONAL RESPONSE

Describe a time in your life when there was little to no spiritual growth. What were the distractions? What were your priorities?

When pursuing spiritual growth, what are your motives? Consider passages such as Ephesians 3:17-19, Philippians 1:9-11 and Luke 8:4-15

How does gaining knowledge about God affect our hearts, soul and mind?

In what ways are you growing spiritually in your life? How much of this growth can you attribute to learning? How much is teaching?

None of us are perfect. If you currently are experiencing a season of spiritual dryness, consider the following:

- Confront it with scripture and prayer.
- Set aside a time each day to spend in The Word.
- Consider working with an accountability partner or a mentor. (Psalm 1)

If we are to be lifelong learners, we need to have a plan. What specific plan can you implement today to grow your relationship with God?

Since we know the indwelling Holy Spirit is working in and through us (Phil 1:6), where are you yielding to his teaching?

Pray:

- Thank God that growth is God's plan for every believer.
- Ask God to reveal distractions that may be hindering you from learning or teaching about God. Then pray for the Spirit to guide and give you the strength to make necessary changes towards learning, discovering more, and teaching about God.
- For opportunities to arise to make disciples.
- That the Spirit would create a thirst for you to gain more knowledge about our Father in heaven.

REPRODUCE

Do you know anyone in the church who is young in their faith? In what ways are you helping them to learn more about God? Prayerfully consider becoming a mentor.

Are you young in your faith? Who in your life is poised to help grow you in Christ likeness?

Who do you know that is in need of discipleship? How are you building teaching opportunities outside of DEC? What people are a witness to your spiritual fruit?

KEY VERSES

From the sermon:

- Matthew 28:18-20
- 2 Corinthians 13:11
- Philipians 1:6
- John 14:21
- 1 John 2:2
- 1 John 5:3
- James 1:22
- Numbers 23:19
- 2 Corinthians 1:19-20
- 2 Peter 1:3-4
- Luke 8:4-8, 11-1
- Ephesians 3:17-19