04

OF GROWTH IN CHRIST



Receiving Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior is the most important decision in life. The act of receiving Jesus Christ by faith starts a whole new life. Just as physical life requires air, food, rest, and exercise, so spiritual life has its requirements for growth and development.



"The righteous man shall live by faith"

Galatians 3:11

The moment you received Christ, you were born into God's family and you received everything you need to live the abundant Christian life. Spiritual growth results from trusting Jesus Christ.

A life of faith will enable you to trust God increasingly with every detail of your life.

The nourishment for spiritual well-being is provided in the following Principles of Growth

- Prayer
- Bible Study
- Obedience

PRAYER

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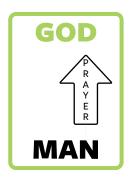
Prayer is talking and listening to God. Failures in the Christian life can most often be traced to prayerlessness.



1. How does man speak to God?

2. Read Philippians 4:6-7

a. What are we told to do?



b. b. What should we pray about?

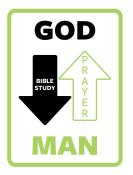
c. As we pray about everything, what does God promise we will experience?

We talk to God through prayer as illustrated in the diagram. He talks to us through the Bible.

BIBLESTUDY

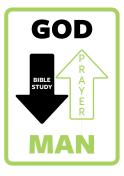
BIBLE STUDY

Physical food is necessary for physical life. Without food, one becomes weak and eventually ill. This is true spiritually as well The Bible is our spiritual food.



1. How does God talk to man?

2. How does reading the bible help us? (2 Timothy 3:16-17)



1. How does faith grow? (Romans 10:17)

2. When should we read the bible? (Acts 17:11)

As we read God's Word, the Bible, God talks to us as illustrated in the diagram. As we pray, we talk to God. We need to constantly practice both.

It is necessary to read God's Worddaily for daily strength.



OBEDIENCE

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The key to continual growth in the Christian life is obedience to the will of God. To know the importance of prayer and Bible Study is of little value unless they are applied in our lives.



1. Read James 1:22

- **a.** According to this verse, Is it enough to read the Bible?
- **b.** After we have read the Bible, What are we supposed to do?

2. How can we prove that we love Jesus (John 14:21)

CONCLUSION

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1. In light of our study and discussion, What three things do you think God wants you to do daily?

2. Realizing that prayer and Bible Study are essential for my spiritual growth, I am going to set aside the following time each day to pray and study the Bible.

CONCLUSION

3. What will be the result of keeping Christ's commandments? **(John 15:10)**

4. Where do we get the power to obey the will of God? (Philippians 2:13)

ANSWERS:

PRAYER

- 1. Through prayer
- 2. a. Do not worry and to pray
 - b. Pray about everything
 - c. We will experience His peace

BIBLE STUDY

- 1. Through His Word, the Bible
- God's Word is useful for teaching, rebuking correcting and training in righteousness
- 3. Through Bible Study
- 4. Everyday

OBEDIENCE

- 1. a. No
 - b. Do what It says, apply it
 - c. By obeying Him

CONCLUSION

- 1. Pray, Study the Bible, Obey
- 2. Personal committed to God
- 3. We will remain in His love
- 4. From God

