

"TIME TO GROW UP"
Running on Empty

Introduction:

Ephesians 4:14 (Phillip's) "We are not meant to remain as children at the mercy of every chance wind of teaching... But we are meant to hold firmly to the truth in love, and to grow up in every way into Christ the Head."

- Spiritual maturity is becoming _____.

FOUR LAWS OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH

1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS _____.

I Corinthians 3:16 (NIV) " You are God's temple and God's Spirit lives in you."

- Spiritual growth is _____. And _____.
- Luther's Catechism: "By Baptism we have been made to share in Christ's death and resurrection. As He has buried our sin, so we too can and must daily overcome and bury it. And as He is risen from the dead and lives, so we too can and must daily live a new life in Him."

2. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS _____.

Ephesians 4:13 (LB) "Our tools are ready at hand for clearing the ground and building lives of obedience into maturity until we all believe.. and become full-grown in the Lord — to the point of being filled full with Christ."

- Spiritual growth is not _____.
- We grow by making _____.
- Luther's Catechism: "Confirmation is... a period of instruction designed to help baptized Christians identify with the life and mission of the Christian community and pledge lifelong fidelity to Christ."
- Sermon study _____.

3. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS _____.

II Corinthians 3:18 (The Message) "Our lives are gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like Him."

- We grow through _____.
- 1. K _____ Christ
 2. L _____ Christ
 3. G _____ in Christ
 4. S _____ Christ

5. S _____ Christ

4. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS _____.

Ephesians 4:16 (NLT) "Under Christ direction, the whole Body is fitted together perfectly. As each part does its own special work it helps the other parts grow so that the whole Body is healthy and growing and full of love."

- Myth: You grow to spiritual maturity _____.
- We only grow _____.

CONCLUSION:

I Corinthians: 8:1 (NLT) "While knowledge may make us feel important, it is love that really builds up the church."

1. It is not what you _____ that matters!
2. It is what you _____ about what you know!
3. Spiritual maturity involves _____.