

God's Great Adventure: Created to Grow

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – May 17, 2009

Hebrews 5:11-6:1a

11 We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are **slow to learn**. 12 In fact, though **by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!** 13 Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. 14 But **solid food is for the mature**, who **by constant use** have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. 6:1 Therefore **let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity...**

- **GOD IS CALLING HIS PEOPLE TO “GO ON” TO MATURITY IN CHRIST.**

Hebrews 5:14-6:1a

14 **solid food is for the mature**, who **by constant use** have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. 6:1 Therefore **let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity...**

- **GROWTH IS A SIGN OF HEALTH - - LACK OF GROWTH IS A SIGN OF DYSFUNCTION.**

Hebrews 5:11-12

11 We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are **slow to learn**. 12 In fact, though **by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!**

How do we “go on” to maturity?

1. **ASK HOLY SPIRIT TO GROW US UP INTO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST**

Ephesians 4:14-15

14 Then we will **no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind** of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will **in all things grow up into him** who is the Head, that is, Christ.

- We must have a **goal** of growth. Children watch their **Mom** and **Dad**.

- As a Child of God, we must emulate our **Heavenly Father**.

- Jesus is our **Pattern!** He is our **Target!**

2. **OFFER GOD OUR HEART AND MIND DAILY AS A BLANK PIECE OF PAPER**

Psalms 119:18

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

Hebrews 8:10

This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel ..., declares the Lord. I will put my **laws in their minds** and **write them on their hearts**.

3. **WE MUST BE INTENTIONAL ABOUT GROWING**

Psalms 1:1-2

Blessed is the man whose ... **delight is in the law of the LORD**, and **on his law he meditates day and night**.

Romans 3:20

no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, **through the law we become conscious of sin**.

4. **THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF GROWING, IS BEARING FRUIT (TEACHING)**

Psalms 1:3

He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which **yields its fruit** in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.

Heb 5:12 “by this time **you ought to be teachers**”

Ask yourself this question...

“WHAT IS STIFLING MY GROWTH IN CHRIST?”