

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

*GROW IN GRACE*  
Make Every Effort — Week 22

**ICEBREAKER:** What is the hardest thing you've ever done?

**OVERVIEW:** God has a plan for your life. He created you to love Him, and serve Him, and glorify Him. But when you first become a Christian, you are not very good at loving, serving, and glorifying God. You are an immature, baby-Christian. This is the reason the Bible commands us to grow. In this study we will go deeper with 2 Peter 3:18 and learn more about how to grow in Christ.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Read 2 Peter 3:18. What can we learn about spiritual growth from this verse?
3. Growth requires life; dead things cannot grow. What kind of life is required for spiritual growth, and how can we receive it?
4. Only living things grow, which means that growth is a sign of life, and the lack of growth is a sign of death. How is this truth an encouragement to some, and a warning to others?
5. According to 2 Peter 3:18, spiritual growth is a command. Are you obeying this command? Explain.
6. Since we are commanded to grow, then growth is our responsibility; it is up to us. What is God's role in spiritual growth, and what is our role in spiritual growth?

7. Spiritual growth, like physical growth, is progressive and gradual. How can this truth help us in the pursuit of spiritual growth?
8. 2 Peter 3:18 commands us to grow in two ways: the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. What does it mean to grow in the grace of Christ?
9. Read 2 Peter 1:5-7. What Christian graces are mentioned in this passage?
10. What does it mean to grow in the knowledge of Christ?
11. Read Colossians 1:9-12. Why is it important for us to grow in the knowledge of Christ?
12. Read 2 Peter 1:8-11. What are the six benefits of spiritual growth?

**The Last Word:** If someone is growing, it is because they are doing the things that are required for growth. But if someone is not growing, then it is because they are not doing those things.