

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

HOW TO GROW UP AS A CHRISTIAN

Week 2

2 Peter 3:18

**ICEBREAKER:** What's the story behind a time when you got locked out?

**OVERVIEW:** In a healthy church there will always be a number of baby Christians, and it is the church's responsibility to teach them how to grow spiritually. In this short sermon series we are looking at the basic facts about spiritual growth and the essential habits that lead to growth. Last week we looked at the first two growth habits, and this week we will go deeper with the final three.

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. What is the definition of spiritual growth? (Hint: See 2 Peter 3:18.)
3. What's the difference between the spiritual growth habits, and spiritual maturity?
4. What spiritual habit, practice, or experience has most helped you grow? (Note: It doesn't have to be one of the growth habits in this series.)
5. Read 2 Peter 1:5-7 and answer the following questions.
  - a) What are the ways God wants us to grow?
  - b) Give a brief definition of the virtues listed in this passage? Which one do you need to grow in the most?

c) What does it mean to "make every effort"?

d) Do you need to put more effort into your spiritual growth? Explain.

6. Refer to Sunday's sermon for the following questions. What are the five growth habits?
7. Read 1 Peter 4:10. What are spiritual gifts, and what does the Bible teach about them?
8. How does using your spiritual gifts and serving in church help you to grow?
9. Read Malachi 3:10-12. What is tithing, and what does the Bible teach about it? How can the habit of tithing help you to grow spiritually?
10. Read Psalm 5:3. What is a daily quiet time, and how can it help you to grow spiritually?
11. If you are in the habit of having a daily quiet time, describe your routine?

**The Last Word:** A good Christian is like the crocodile—which continues to grow as long as it lives. Thomas Watson

