

Grow In the Lord So You Can Do What He Wants

God gave us Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers so that we can be perfected in Christ. The word 'perfected' means to grow to our full potential. When we are born again, we receive a perfect spirit; but our soul (which is our mind will and emotions) is imperfect. The reason many Christians live the lifestyle of the world after they are born again, is because their soul has not yet grown into Christ's maturity. The Apostle Paul comprehended how to get born-again people to grow up so that they could live out their full potential in Christ.

Ephesians [4:11-15](#) KJV And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; [12] For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: [13] Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: [14] That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; [15] But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the Head, even Christ:

When a person receives Jesus, they have just started a life-long adventure of changing their mind so they can receive more of what God has planned for them. As a baby Christian, they cannot receive from God what He desires to give them until they mature. Just like in the natural, a baby cannot drive a car, fly an airplane, or even ride a bicycle. Babies have to grow to receive the multitudes of blessings in life. It's the same way in the body of Christ. A person cannot, as a baby Christian, skip ahead and receive what a mature Christian can receive.

In the last 30 years I've looked at the body of Christ, and seen people that are baby Christians because they just got saved. I also have seen people that are baby Christians but they have been saved for many years yet have never grown. If they were to die, they would go straight to Heaven; because they have received Jesus' blood to blot out their sins. But while they are on the earth, they can't receive much from the Lord; because they haven't submitted themselves to the 5-fold ministry offices of the Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor, and Teacher.

Ephesians 4:14-15,17-18 KJV That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; [15] But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the Head, even Christ: [17] This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, [18] Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:

In the natural children must have older, more mature adults teach them, telling them what to do. The same rule applies in spiritual growth. I learned a long time ago that in God's classroom, we must submit to the Bible, which was written by the original Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers inspired by the Holy Spirit. It is

the primary way God talks to us, and today all people that hold these offices must not deviate from the original teachings.

God told me, "If you want to get your doctrine straight, you have to read from Matthew, Mark, Luke & John." Then He gave me a major revelation telling me that the Apostle Paul was the Apostle to the New Testament Gentile Church, and if I would study his writings and let them permeate my heart, I would grow up and become more like Jesus than I ever thought I could be.

Over the years I have gone down wrong doctrinal paths, but then the Lord would bring me back due to the solid foundational truths the Apostle Paul wrote. This Newsletter should help you understand that living like Jesus will not happen overnight. It is a long process of submission to God's Word and doing it. You have been reborn to live a new life. As you allow the Holy Spirit to teach you through the Textbook called the Bible, you will grow and become a mature Christian.

Love you, Pastor Paul