

IT'S TIME TO GROW UP

Rick Warren

"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." Ephesians 4:14 (PH)

THE LAWS OF GROWTH

1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS

"You are God's temple and God's Spirit lives in you." 1 Corinthians 3:16 (NIV)

"(It's) ... a life renewed from the inside and working itself out into your conduct as God accurately reproduces his character in you." Ephesians 4:23–24 (MSG)

REALITY: SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS BOTH

2. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS

MYTH: Growth is automatic.

REALITY: WE GROW BY

"COME & SEE" to "COME & DIE"

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

TOOLS WE USE:

1.

2.

"Because of all this we again promised to serve the Lord! And we, and our princes and Levites and priests all; put our names to this covenant.' I, Nehemiah signed this covenant. The others who signed it were ... "Nehemiah 9:38–10:1 (LB)

3.

"The man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does." James 1:25 (NIV)

1. People listen better.
2. People remember more.
3. Increases participation.
4. Cover more scripture in less time.
5. Can review the message for years to come.
6. Allows small group discussion.
7. Can study multiple translations.
8. Visitors don't bring Bibles.

3. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS

MYTH: GROWTH IS INSTANT

REALITY: WE GROW THROUGH

"... our lives are gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like him." 2Corinthians 3:18 (MSG)

Knowing Christ, Loving, Growing, Serving, & Sharing

TOOLS: THE PURPOSE DRIVEN LIFE DEVELOPMENT CLASSES

4. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS

REALITY: WE GROW ACCORDING TO OUR

"Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else." Galatians 6:4 (NIV)

TOOLS WE USE:

1.

2.

5. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS

REALITY: WE GROW BY

"Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another all the more...."Hebrews 10:25 (TEV)

TOOLS WE USE:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

6. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS

MYTH: YOU CAN ATTAIN MATURITY BY YOURSELF

REALITY: WE ONLY GROW

"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."Ephesians 4:16 (NLT)

TOOLS WE USE:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

7. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS

MYTH: MATURITY IS MEASURED BY BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

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

REALITY: IT TAKES ALL

Warmer through fellowship

Deeper through discipleship

Stronger through worship

Broader through ministry

Larger through mission

"Pure and lasting religion in the sight of God means that we must care for orphans and widows in their troubles, and refuse to let the world corrupt us." James 1:27 (NLT)

8. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS

"As long as the earth remains, there will be springtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, day and night." Genesis 8:22 (NLT)

REALITY: WE GROW

THE TOOLS WE USE:

HEAR IT! READ IT! DISCUSS IT! MEMORIZE A VERSE! DO IT!

The purpose driven strategy is built on these 8 laws.

"My true disciples produce much fruit. This brings great glory to My Father."