



Part 6 – Made to Grow

February 17, 2019

Five Purposes for both life and the church

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Romans 8:29 (The Message) – *God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son.*

Ephesians 4:22-24 (NLT) – *Throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.*

- The theological term for the process of changing to become more like Jesus is called _____.
- Change your _____, not your _____.

Growing to be godly

1. We become godly by putting _____ into _____.

James 1:22 (The Message) – *Don't fool yourself into thinking that you are a listener when you are anything but, letting the Word go in one ear and out the other. Act on what you hear.*

2. We become godly by _____ with the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:22-24 (NLT) – *Throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.*

- a. We must choose to let go of _____ ways of acting.
- b. We must change the way we _____.

Romans 12:2 (NLT) – *Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.*

- c. We must develop new, _____ habits.
3. We become godly as God uses his word, people, and circumstances to shape us.
 - a. God's word provides the _____ we need to grow.
 - b. God's people provide the _____ we need to grow.
 - c. Circumstances provide the _____ we need to grow.
 4. We become godly over the _____ _____.
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Next Steps

- Apart from church, how much time do I spend reading God's word? How do I approach God's word before, while, and after reading it? Is it a box to check off or is it a way to know God and what he wants for my life?
- In what area of my life do I most sense the Holy Spirit prompt me to behave in a different way? (Such promptings can be feelings in the moment, or specific portions of God's word coming to mind at appropriate times, or feelings of regret/remorse following a situation.)
- What part of my old sinful nature has been hardest for me to leave behind? Why do I think this is the case?
- What ingrained patterns of behavior seem to cause me the most trouble? Where and when did I learn those patterns?
- How can I let God change the way I think?
- What godly habits do I need to add to my life? What ungodly habits do I need to drop?
- How can understanding the "long haul" nature of sanctification help me?