



Grow Up

Series: *First Corinthians* 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

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Three categories of people...

- 1) People who **don't** know God
1 Corinthians 2:14
- 2) People who **do** know God
1 Corinthians 2:15
- 3) People who know God, but **act** like they don't
1 Corinthians 3:3-9

Two ways to measure your spiritual maturity

1 Corinthians 3:3; 8:1

- 1) How you **relate** to others
- 2) What you **do** in the kingdom

What Jesus said about the Holy Spirit...

John 14:1-6; John 15:1-12; John 16:7-11

Jesus gives us three things the Spirit does for us...

- 1) The Spirit shows us who we are...**sinners**
- 2) The Spirit shows us who **God** is
- 3) The Spirit will show us what **life** is about
1 Corinthians 2:15

How does the Holy Spirit work?

Romans 8:1-10

- 1) **Tune-in** to the Spirit
- 2) **Stay** tuned-in to the Spirit
- 3) **Listen** to the Spirit

Growth Group Questions

All references from New International Version (NIV)

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

MY STORY

1. Do you have older brothers and sisters? If so, did they ever get to do things that you couldn't do simply because they were older? Explain.
2. When you were growing up, did your parents have some kind of chart to measure your growth? If so, what did they do? When was your 'growth spurt'?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Brian mentioned how valuable it would be if God's Word included some sort of measuring chart for spiritual growth. The apostle Paul gives us a way to know if we're growing spiritually, and that is 'how we relate to others'. Read these verses and identify ways to measure your spirituality.

1 Corinthians 3:2-3

² I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. ³ You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans?

2 Corinthians 12:20

²⁰ For I am afraid that when I come I may not find you as I want you to be, and you may not find me as you want me to be. I fear that there may be discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, slander, gossip, arrogance and disorder.

Titus 3:9

⁹ But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless.

James 3:14-16

¹⁴ But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

In Luke 6:32 Jesus says, “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?” The Bible says that when you measure your spiritual growth, do it by looking at how you relate to people you don’t get along with. Looking at your life, how are you doing in this area?

In John 13:35 Jesus says, “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.” If a non-Christian goes to a church for the first time, how can they tell whether or not a church is loving?

2. In the sermon, Brian made it clear that we need to tune-in to the Spirit and not the flesh. To help with this, God has given us His Word and other believers. Read these verses and identify things that will help us remain in Christ and how we can use them in our lives.

Psalm 119:9-11

⁹ How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word. ¹⁰ I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. ¹¹ I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Psalm 1:1-3

¹ Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, ² but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night. ³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers.

Hebrews 10:24-25

²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

James 5:16

¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Looking at these verses, what are some ways you can take advantage of these things to help you remain in Christ?

What role do our feelings play in identifying how strong we are spiritually?

3. In American culture we are taught we have to ‘pull ourselves up by our own bootstraps’. Often Christians think about living the Christian life in their own power rather than relying on God. Read these verses about relying on God.

Hosea 1:7

⁷ Yet I will show love to Judah; and I will save them—not by bow, sword or battle, or by horses and horsemen, but I, the LORD their God, will save them.

Zechariah 4:6

⁶ So he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,’ says the LORD Almighty.

1 Corinthians 2:5

⁵ So that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God’s power.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

⁷ Or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹ But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. ¹⁰ That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

What are some things in the Christian life that we try to do on our own?

Why is it so important that we rely on God’s power and not our own?

4. Read Galatians 5:19-21. How do these ‘acts of the sinful nature’ negatively affect our relationship with others?

Galatians 5:19-21

¹⁹ The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Do you have a mature Christian in your life that you listen to?

TAKING IT HOME

Based on this week’s sermon and homework, what is the most important thing for you to remember and why?