

Grow Up

CHURCH IS GOD'S IDEA~ JOHN 15:1-9

MARCH 6, 2016

Come as you are but don't stay that way.

Stunted Growth happens...

by _____

by _____

John 15:1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. 9 "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.

I grow by... (1 Cor. 4:16; Phil. 4:9; Heb. 13:7; Col. 1:28-29; 1 Thess. 5:11; Eph. 4:15-16; Col. 3:16)

1. _____
2. _____ **from others**
3. _____ **others**

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Churchwork:

1. Growth often comes through difficulty. Describe a particularly rich season of growth you've experienced. What does James 1 have to say about pain and growth?
2. Not all growth is good growth (IE weeds grow). How do you evaluate growth? Are you tempted to grow in areas that don't really matter?
3. Even if you aren't hiding or going in the wrong direction...growth is hindered because the RIGHT direction can feel too hard and take longer than you ever imagined. Read 2 Peter 1:8-10 and state the instruction found there.
4. Now read 2 Peter 1:5-7. Are you growing in both knowledge and practice of these qualities? Are you in love with Jesus and effective?
5. What would you add to the list "I grow by...?"
6. Re-read John 15:1-9 then go right into prayer. Agree with God about the growth he offers.