

Gospel Growth

INTRODUCTION

THE PROCESS OF GOSPEL GROWTH

God has designed trees to grow by soil, sunlight, and water. Working together, these vital elements bring a seedling to maturity over time. In the same way, God has designed His people to grow to maturity through specific means. **Unlike a tree, however, we have the ability to choose whether or not we will cooperate with God's work.** While He is the great Cultivator, He expects us to diligently do our part for spiritual growth.

What do we confuse with growth?

Position in Christ God's Love Time Knowledge Activity

What does God use to grow us?

God's Word God's church God's sovereignty

What must we do to grow?

We grow by exercising _____ (Phil. 2:12-13, John 5:30).

We grow by diligently _____, but only in dependence on God to _____ us to work. (Rom. 8:13)

We grow as God makes our work _____. His work does not make our work _____. (Col. 1:28-29, Phil 4:11-13, 1 Cor. 3:7)

Dependent

"For it is God who works in you"

Diligence

"Work out your own salvation"

God's
Word

God's
Church

God's
Sovereignty

We grow by exercising dependent diligence from _____.

(Heb. 6:11-12, Phil. 3:12-14).

The process of spiritual growth must not be ignored or neglected. In the busy lives we lead we must guard our time in the Word, purposefully develop spiritual relationships in the church, and endure in our trials as new opportunities for growth. With God's power, we must then work diligently to add spiritual qualities to our life.

PURSUING GOSPEL GROWTH

- All of us have times in our Christian lives when we are ineffective and unproductive. What might these moments look like and why do they happen?
- What are some factors that keep you from being diligent in your gospel growth?
- Is it possible to actually lose our spiritual maturity if we do not maintain the process of growth? Can you think of a Bible reference to support your answer?