



GROWTH

- Growth starts in our hearts
- Growth then leads to our homes - [1 Tim 3](#)
- Growth requires trials and tribulations
- An Acorn needs to fall, break, and die before it grows
- Scripture again and again records trial and hardship preceding a breakthrough.

Expectation of Growth: Spiritual growth is essential and expected.

Key Scriptures:

[2 Peter 3:18](#)

[1 Peter 2:2](#)

[2 Peter 1:5–7](#)

The Essentiality of Growth

God's Provision for Growth

- Scripture as the Complete Source ([2 Peter 1:3–4](#))
- No new revelations are needed; everything is already in scripture.
- Knowledge (Epignosis):
- Not merely factual knowledge (gnosis) but a deep, maturing understanding.
- Ever maturing, never fully matured.
- Partakers of Divine nature - becoming more Christ like
- Effort Required ([2 Peter 1:5, 10](#))
- Greek word for "diligence" means to hasten implies eagerness and zeal.
- Warnings Against Complacency: [Luke 13:24](#) - agonize or struggle [Acts 14:22](#)
- A stagnant Christian risks spiritual decline.

The Purpose of Growth

Misconceptions

- Growth is not tied to salvation's completeness: [Colossians 2:10](#)
- Not "you will be" or "you are becoming" but "you are!" [2 Corinthians 5:17](#)
- Growth does not earn God's love [Romans 5:6–8](#)