

Growing in Christ

Luke 2:39-52

Luke 2:40, 52 – ⁴⁰The boy grew up and became strong, filled with wisdom, and God's grace was on him. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people. (CSB)

I. Growing in Christ requires **advancing forward**.

Philippians 3:12-15 – ¹²Not that I have already reached the goal or am already perfect, but I make every effort to take hold of it because I also have been taken hold of by Christ Jesus. ¹³Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and reaching forward to what is ahead, ¹⁴I pursue as my goal the prize promised by God's heavenly call in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Therefore, let all of us who are mature think this way. And if you think differently about anything, God will reveal this also to you. (CSB)

How do I advance forward?

1 Corinthians 9:23-27 – ²³Now I do all this because of the gospel, so that I may share in the blessings. ²⁴Don't you know that the runners in a stadium all race, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way to win the prize. ²⁵Now everyone who competes exercises self-control in everything. They do it to receive a perishable crown, but we an imperishable crown. ²⁶So I do not run like one who runs aimlessly or box like one beating the air. ²⁷Instead, I discipline my body and bring it under strict control, so that after preaching to others, I myself will not be disqualified.
(CSB)

II. Growing in Christ requires **mental learning**.

III. Growing in Christ requires **physical capacity**.

IV. Growing in Christ requires **social interrelation**.

V. Growing in Christ requires **spiritual maturity**.

Thought For The Week:

Grow as Jesus **grew**.

Todd Hitchcock - Bethel Baptist Church January 21, 2018 Message Notes