KNOWING JESUS

GROWING IN GRACE

2 Peter 3:18

"But grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever! Amen."

CCIC believes that;

- CHIST IS OUR CENTER. Galatians 2:20 "I no longer live, but Christ lives in me."
- LOVE IS OUR BOND. Colossians 3:14 And over all these virtues put on love, which bind them all together in perfect unity."
- GOSPEL IS OUR MISSION. Mark 16:15 "He said to them. Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation."

OUR STRUCTURE;

- TO TEACH THE WORD.
- TO TEACH TO PORAY.
- TO TEACH TO LOVE GOD AND THE PEOPLE.
- TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.

GROWING IN GRACE 2 PETER 3:18

- 1. Grace is God's unmerited favor and transforming power. It saves us, sustain us. Shapes us into Christ's image.
- 2. Growing in grace means learning to depend more on God's strength and less on our own.
- 3. Grace changes our character-reproducing humility, kindness, forgiveness, and love.
- 4. Grace equips us to serve others with the gifts God has given to us.
- 5. The more we understand grace, the more we respond with gratitude and worship to God.

ROOTED IN CHRIST. COLOSSIANS 2:6-7

- 1. Receive Christ and walk in Him.
- 2. Be rooted in Christ.
- 3. Be built up in Him.
- 4. Be stablished in the faith as you have been taught.
- 5. May your walk with Christ abound with thanksgiving.

Text: 1 Peter 2:1-3

"Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like a new born babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good."

- 1. THE PREPARATION FOR GROWTH. "Get rid of all malice" (V1)
- "Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind."
- A. The growth requires putting away what hinders appetites.
- B. Sin dulls hunger for the word. (<u>5 sins to get rid</u>)
- C. Before we can feed, we must be clean.

- 2. THE PURSUIT FOR GROWTH. Craving the word.
- "Like a new born babies, crave pure spiritual milk.
- A. A healthy Christian has a desire for God's word.
- B. The word must be pure. Untainted, Unmixed with error. It must be nourishing-able to build spiritual strength.
- C. Craving is continues not one times." What you desire determines how you grow."

- 3. THE PURPOSE OF GROWTH. "Maturity in Christ". "so that by it you may grow up in your salvation"
- A. Spiritual growth is moving from immaturity to become mature.
- B. The Word of God is not just for information, but for transformation.
- C. We all grow together in the likeness of Christ.

- 4. THE POWER FOR GROWTH. "Tasting God's goodness." now that you have tasted that the Lord is good."
- A. Growth is fueled by experience of God's goodness.
- B. The more we taste His grace, the more we hunger for Him.
- C. God's Word is not duty but delight.

CONCLUSION;

"GROWING IN GRACE REQUIRES PUTTING AWAY SINS, CRAVING THE WORD OF GOD, MATURING IN SALVATION, AND CONTINUALLY TASTING THE GOODNESS OF GOD."

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1. WHICH OF THE FIVE HINDRANCES DO I STRUGGLE WITH MOST?
- 2. DO I CRAVE GOD'S WORD LIKE A NEW BORN BABIES CRAVES MILK?
- 3. IN WHAT WAYS HAVE I SEEN MYSELF GROW SPIRITUALLY OVER THE PAST YEAR?
- 4. HAVE I PERSONALLY TASTED THE LORD'S GOODNESS?
- 5. HOW DOES THE GOODNESS OF GOD FUELED ME IN MY SPIRITUAL GROWTH?

""Therefore, <u>rid</u> yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like a new born babies, <u>crave</u> pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may <u>grow up</u> in your salvation, now that you have <u>tasted</u> that the Lord is good." 1 PETER 2:1-3