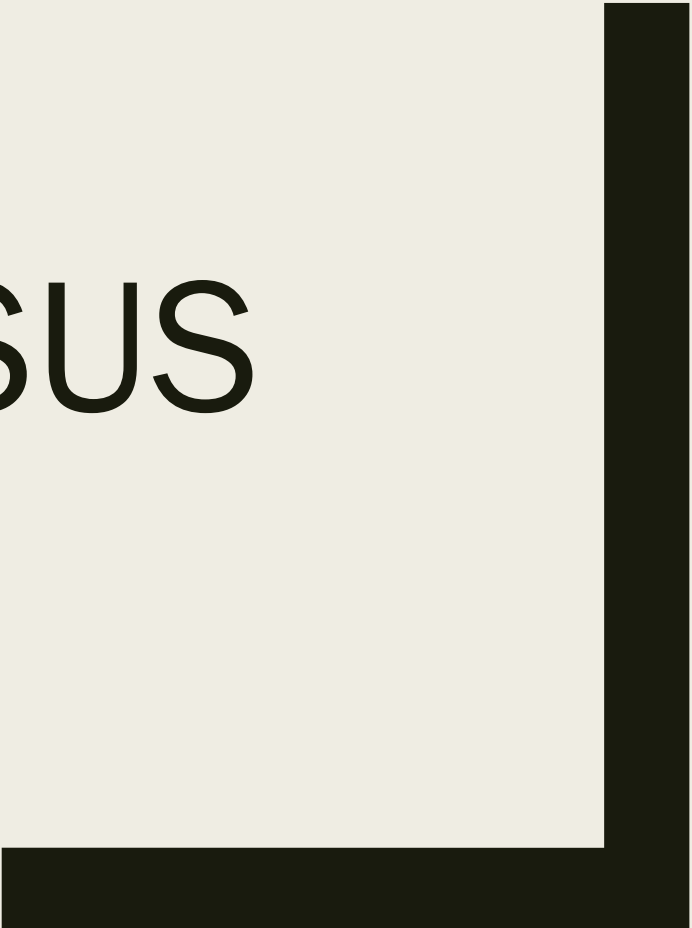




KNOWING JESUS

GROWING IN GRACE



2 PETER 3:18

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

CCIC BELIEVES THAT:

- CHRIST IS OUR CENTER. (GALATIANS 2:20.) “I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.”
- LOVE IS OUR BOND. (COLOSSIANS. 3:14) “over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.”
- GOSPEL IS OUR MISSION. (MARK 15:16) “*Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.*”

OUR STRUCRURE:

- 1. TEACH THE WORD OF GOD.
- 2. TEACH TO PRAY.
- 3. TEACH TO LOVE GOD AND THE PEOPLE.
- 4. TEACH TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.

MESSAGE LAST SUNDAY.

- GROWING IN GRACE IN THE MIDST OF TRIALS.
- 1. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT TRIALS ARE NOT PUNISHMENT BUT OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW IN MATURITY.
- 2. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT WISDOM IS ESSENTIAL AND COMES ONLY FROM GOD THROUGH FAITH.
- 3. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT EARTHLY STATUS FADES BUT SPIRITUAL RICHES ENDURE.

MESSAGE LAST SUNDAY.

- 4. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT ENDURANCE IS BLESSED WITH ETERNAL LIFE.
- 5. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT TEMPTATION COMES FROM WITHIN, NOT FROM GOD.
- 6. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT GOD IS ALWAYS GOOD AND NEVER CHANGES.

TEXT: EPHESIANS 4:11-13-16

- “¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”

EPHESIANS 4:14-15

- “¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ”

EPHESIANS 4:16

- “ ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

TITLE: GROWING IN GRACE BY SERVING GOD.

- OUR TEXT, EPHESIANS 4:11-16 IS POWERFUL PASSAGE ABOUT SPIRITUAL GROWTH, UNITY, AND MATURITY IN CHRIST'S BODY. (The Church).
- What are the purpose about Spiritual growth, Unity, and Maturity in Christ's Body?

What are the purpose about Spiritual growth, Unity, and Maturity in Christ's Body?

- I. CHRIST ORCHESTRATED THE CHURCH.
- “¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ”

I. CHRIST ORCHESTRATED THE CHURCH.

- A. CHRIST IS THE SOURCE OF THE GIFTS.

- "He Himself gave."

- B. THE GIFTED PEOPLE ARE HIS GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.

- 1. Apostles- Foundational messengers who established the Church.
- 2. Prophets- Those who speak God's truth and guidance.
- 3. Evangelist- Proclaimers of the Gospel to the lost.

B. THE GIFTED PEOPLE ARE HIS GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.

- 4. Pastors and teachers - Shepherds who guide and instruct believers.
- TRUTH: *Spiritual leaders are Christ's gifts to help the Church grow and mature.*

II- THE PURPOSE OF THE GIFTS (V12)

- “to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up”
- A. Equipping the saints—Training and preparing the believers to serve.
- B. Doing the work of the ministry—Every believer has a role in serving.

II. THE PURPOSE OF THE GIFTS

- C. Building up the body of Christ.– Strengthening the Church in Faith and Love.
- Truth. THE MINISTRY IS NOT JUST FOR THE LEADERS---IT'S FOR EVERY MEMBER EQUIPPED TO SERVE.

III. THE GOAL OF GROWTH. (V.13)

- “until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”

III. THE GOAL OF GROWTH. (V.13)

- A. Unity of the Faith. Shared belief in Christ's truth.
- B. Knowledge of the Son of God. Growing intimate relationship with Jesus.
- C. Maturity in Christ. Becoming more like Him in character and purpose.
- Truth: *True maturity is measured by Christ's likeness, not by spiritual titles or status.*

IV. THE MARKS OF MATURITY. (V14-15).

- “¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.”

IV. THE MARKS OF MATURITY. (V14-15)

- A. Stability in truth V14.
- * No easily deceived by false teaching or trends.
- * Firm in Biblical conviction and spiritual discernment.

IV. THE MARKS OF MATURITY. (V14-15)

- B. Speaking the truth in love. (V15a).
- * Truth without love is brutality, love without truth is hypocrisy.
- * Mature believers balance honesty with compassion.

IV. THE MARKS OF MATURITY. (V14-15)

- C. Growing up into Christ. (V. 15).
- * Christ is the head– The model , authority, and source of life.
- * Growth means becoming more aligned with his mind and mission.
- Truth: *Maturity means truth with love and growth toward Christ.*

V. THE POWER OF A HEALTHY BODY. (V16)

- “From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

V. THE POWER OF A HEALTHY BODY. (V16)

- A. Christ is the head.
- *The source of life and coordination.
- B. The Church is the body.
- *Every believer has a role and connection.

V. THE POWER OF A HEALTHY BODY. (V16)

- C. Growth happens through cooperation with love.
- D. Every part working properly.
- *A strong and loving and effective Church.
- Truth: *The Church grows when every believer does their part, empowered by love.*

CONCLUSION:

- 1. Be Equipped- Receive teaching and training so you can serve effectively.
- 2. Be Involved– Every believer has ministry; no one is unnecessary.
- 3. Be Grounded—Know the truth so you won't be swayed by deception.

CONCLUSION

- 4. Be Loving--Speak and act in Love.
- 5. Be Connected—Stay joined to Christ and fellow believers; growth happens in maturity.