

Series - Confidence, Peace, & Great Expectation in 2026

3-8-26

Session #9 – Grow You & Your Ministry

John 14:12 (NLT) ¹²“I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father.

Hebrews 12:1–2a (NLT) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. ²We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith.

If you're tired or weary, readjust, make up your mind, and continue in strength.

Hebrews 12:12–13 (NLT) ¹²So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees.

¹³Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fall but become strong.

It's God's power at work within us to accomplish more that we can imagine.

Ephesians 3:19–20 (NLT) ¹⁹May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. ²⁰Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.

Three Foundational Scriptures for This Message:

Ephesians 2:9–10 (NLT) ⁹Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. ¹⁰For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NLT) ¹⁸So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.

Ephesians 4:15–16 (NLT) ¹⁵Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. ¹⁶He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As

each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts **grow**, so that the whole body is healthy and **growing** and full of love.

We Can Fail To Move Into Our Purpose!

Not Growing, is a Problem!

Four Reasons We Fail To Grow:

A. Selfishness

2 Timothy 3:1–5 (NLT) *The Dangers of the Last Days*

You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. ²For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. ³They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. ⁴They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. ⁵They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!

2 Timothy 4:3–4 (NLT) ³For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. ⁴They will reject the truth and chase after myths.

(People that are following their own selfishness, are not concerned with others, or their own purpose to minister to others.)

B. Not Interested in Growing

Hebrews 5:11–14 (NLT) *A Call to Spiritual Growth* ¹¹There is much more we would like to say about this, but it is difficult to explain, especially since you are spiritually dull and don't seem to listen. ¹²You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God's word. You are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food. ¹³For someone who lives on milk is still an infant and doesn't know how to do what is right. ¹⁴Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong.

C. Not Realizing or Caring That You Are The Rescue Plan For People

Matthew 9:36–38 (NLT) ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷He said to his disciples, “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. ³⁸So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.”

D. Not Realizing or Caring That There is a Passing/Spreading of Ministry

2 Timothy 2:2 (NLT) ²You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.

1 Peter 4:10 (NLT) ¹⁰**God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.**

Five-Fold Ministry Gifts (Ephesians 4:11)

These are leadership roles intended to equip the church for ministry.

1. **Apostle**: Establishes foundations and governs/pioneers new works.
2. **Prophet**: Declares God’s Word, brings direction, and offers spiritual insight.
3. **Evangelist**: Proclaims the gospel to the lost and gathers people to Christ.
4. **Pastor**: Shepherds, nurtures, protects, and cares for the congregation.
5. **Teacher**: Instructs in doctrine, grounds believers in the Word, and ensures biblical understanding.

Motivational Gifts (Romans 12:6-8)

These are inherent motivators that drive how a believer functions.

1. **Prophecy**: Discerning and proclaiming the will of God to correct or encourage.
2. **Serving/Ministry**: Meeting practical needs and supporting others.
3. **Teaching**: Researching and communicating truth to instruct.
4. **Exhortation**: Encouraging, comforting, and motivating others to act.
5. **Giving**: Contributing resources to the work of the Lord with generosity.
6. **Leadership/Administration**: Organizing, leading, and directing with diligence.
7. **Mercy**: Showing compassion and care to those in need.

Spiritual Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28)

These are manifestations of the Spirit for the common good.

1. **Wisdom (Word of Wisdom)**: Supernatural insight into how to apply knowledge to a specific situation.
2. **Knowledge (Word of Knowledge)**: Revelation of facts about people or situations otherwise unknown.
3. **Faith**: A supernatural assurance and trust in God for specific outcomes.

4. **Healing (Gifts of Healing):** Supernatural restoration of health.
5. **Miracles (Working of Miracles):** Supernatural interventions that alter the ordinary course of nature.
6. **Discerning of Spirits:** Ability to distinguish between divine, demonic, or human spirits.
7. **Tongues:** Speaking in a language not learned by the speaker.
8. **Interpretation of Tongues:** Disclosing the meaning of a message spoken in tongues.
9. **Helps:** Providing support behind the scenes to aid in ministry

How To Grow, Discover Purpose & Make A Difference:

1. Surrender To Your God Given Purposes

1 Cor. 10:31 So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

2. Be Led by The Word, Study, & Grow -*There is progression of growth as we are led by the word.*

2 Corinthians 3:16–18 (NLT) ¹⁶But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—**makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.**

3. Stay Really Connected To Jesus

John 15:5, 8 (NLT) ⁵“Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

⁸When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.

4. Be Led By The Holy Spirit

Romans 8:14 (NLT) ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

5. Connect With the Body of Christ (the Church) -Receive from the gifts of others, exercise your gifts, interaction, refining the gifts, and refilling.

6. Be Like Christ In Every Way

1 Corinthians 11:1 (NLT) ^{11:1} And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ.

Ephesians 4:15(NLT) ¹⁵ Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

7. Be Faithful In The Little Things

Matthew 25:14–30 (NLT) ²¹ “The master was full of praise. ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!’

2026?

- Really Know God!
- Be Free (of things God want you free of)!
- Really Love People!

You Will Have Confidence, Peace and Great Expectation!