

“A Commitment to Grow”

Ephesians 4:11-16

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Introduction:

- A. Riddle: What is one significant difference between an _____ and every other form of transportation?
 - 1. Answer: Other forms of transportation can come to a _____ without danger, and they can all go _____ to some degree.
 - 2. Likewise, the only safe direction for the Christian’s spiritual life is _____ and _____.
- B. We all start out as _____ and if we are going to grow into some kind of “greatness” then it takes _____ and _____.
- C. When Paul wrote his first letter to the Corinthians, he was frustrated by their _____. (1 Cor. 3:2)
- D. The writer of Hebrews had a similar complaint about the lack of _____ of some Christians. (Heb. 5:11-14)
 - 1. Some should be _____ than they are.
 - 2. Notice the primary place of _____ in developing maturity.

I. The first area for growth in our spiritual life is: Our _____.

- A. Jesus makes it clear that God is seeking _____, but not just any _____.
 - 1. God is looking for those who will worship in _____ and in _____. (Jn. 4:21-24)
- B. Consider these passages about worship: Ps. 96:9-10; 100:1-5; Heb. 12:28-29.
- C. What are aspects of our worship where we can strive for growth?
 - 1. We can grow in our _____ and _____ in worship.
 - 2. We can grow in worshiping God in _____ and in _____.
 - a. Our worship must be guided by and consist of the truth of _____.
 - b. Our _____ and _____ must be engaged in worship.
 - c. As we offer God our worship from the _____, we want to offer sincerity, enthusiasm, _____ and _____.

II. A second area for growth in our spiritual life is: Our _____.

- A. Evangelism is a responsibility as disciples of Jesus, but it is also a great _____ and it is truly _____. (Mt. 5:13-16; Mt. 28:19)
- B. Let’s make a couple of observations that can help us grow in our witnessing.
 - 1. Evangelism is not primarily a _____, or a technique, rather it is a _____. (Col. 4:5-6)
 - 2. Keep in mind that very few people will _____ on their own, rather most need someone to _____ them to _____ Him.

III. A third area for growth in our spiritual life is: Our _____.

- A. The most important question is: Is God _____ with my _____?
- B. Ephesians 4:16 says that the church grows and builds itself up as “_____ does its work.”

Conclusion:

- A. Our motto could be: “Tremble, O Enemy, We are _____ for God.”

Answer Key: Intro.A. airplane. A.1. standstill, backward. A.2. forward, upward. B. babies, time, effort. C. immaturity. D. growth. D.1. further, along. D.2. God’s, Word. I. Worship. I.A. worshipers, kind. I.A.1. spirit, truth. I.C.1. regularity, consistency. I.C.2. spirit, truth. 1.C.2.a. God’s, Word. I.C.2.b. hearts, spirits. I.C.2.c. joy, commitment. II. Witness. II.A. privilege, rewarding. II.B.1. program, lifestyle. II.B.2. find, Jesus, invite, meet. III. Work. III.A. pleased, service. III.B. each, part. Concl.A. growing, up.