God Family Country

GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

Growing Beyond a Decision of Faith

Speaker: Deanne Ballentine

Highlighted Scripture

- **James 4:8**
  "Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you." Deanne emphasizes that lasting spiritual growth comes from continually pursuing a close relationship with God.

- **2 Timothy 2:15**
  Believers are encouraged to diligently study God's Word so they can rightly understand and faithfully apply the truth.

- **John 14:6**
  Jesus declares that He is the way, the truth, and the life, and that no one comes to the Father except through Him.

Discussion Questions

- **Deanne shares that saying the sinner's prayer alone did not produce spiritual growth. What is the difference between making a decision for Christ and becoming a disciple of Christ?**

• Why is it important to study Scripture for yourself rather than relying only on what others say?

• Deanne challenges the common saying, "God won't give you more than you can handle." Why is it important to distinguish between popular sayings and what Scripture actually teaches?

• How has God used difficult seasons to deepen your faith and dependence on Him?

• What practical steps help you continue growing in your relationship with Christ over the long term?

Reflection Challenge

Focus on growing deeper in your walk with Christ rather than simply gaining more knowledge.

Ask yourself:

• Am I intentionally pursuing a deeper relationship with God?

• Do I regularly study God's Word to understand what it actually says?

• Is there an area where God is calling me to greater obedience or trust?

Try this:

• Read one chapter of Scripture each day and ask God to reveal something about His character.

• Compare a familiar Christian saying with what the Bible actually teaches.

• Spend time thanking God for His faithfulness throughout your spiritual journey.

• Ask God to help you become not only a hearer of His Word, but a faithful disciple who lives it out.

Remember

• Spiritual growth requires commitment, discipleship, and obedience.

• God's Word should always be our foundation for truth.

• Difficult seasons often become opportunities to draw nearer to God.

• Jesus alone is the way to salvation.

• God faithfully continues His work in those who choose to trust Him.

Prayer

Father God,

Thank You for patiently leading me throughout my journey of faith. Help me move beyond simply knowing about You and grow into a faithful disciple who follows You wholeheartedly. Give me a hunger for Your Word, wisdom to discern truth, and the courage to obey what You teach me. Thank You for Your faithfulness through every season of life and for drawing near to me as I seek You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.