Lessons from a Pumpkin

November 1, 2026



Two areas to lean into today is:

a. ***Personal*** Growth
b. Growth in ***Others***

DISCIPLE: is a student, learner, follower, and imitator who follows another person, a way of life, and who submits personally to the discipline (teaching) of that leader or way.

DISCIPLESHIP: ongoing process, relationship, or state of being a disciple. Represent the journey of helping others in growing spiritually, maturing in faith, and becoming more Christlike over time.

Discipleship is:

- ***Following*** Jesus
- Being ***transformed*** by Jesus
- ***Obedience*** to His Word
- ***Engaging*** in His Mission

Across the Street, Around the World

Lesson from the Pumpkin:

1. ***Prepare*** the soil in which you plant.

Lesson from the Pumpkin:

2. ***Plant*** the seeds.

Lesson from the Pumpkin:

3. ***Care*** for the seeds.

Luke 9:12-13 (NLT)

12 Late in the afternoon the twelve disciples came to him and said, “Send the crowds away to the nearby villages and farms, so they can find food and lodging for the night. There is nothing to eat here in this remote place.” **13** But Jesus said, “You feed them.”

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Lesson from the Pumpkin:

4. ***Don't dig up*** the seed.

"Impatience is the enemy of growth!"

Lesson from the Pumpkin:

5. Bees are ***valuable and vital*** to pollinate to produce fruit.
6. ***Small growth*** is still growth.

Different fruits grow to maturity at different paces.
Believers grow in spiritual maturity at different paces.

Lesson from the Pumpkin:

7. Vines bring ***stability***.

Jeremiah 17:7-8 (ESV)

[7] "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. [8] He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."

Lesson from the Pumpkin:

8. Large Leaves ***provide a covering/protection***.

Psalm 91:1-4 (NLT)

[1] Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty. [2] This I declare about the LORD: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him. [3] For he will rescue you from every trap and protect you from deadly disease. [4] He will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings. His faithful promises are your armor and protection.

Lesson from the Pumpkin:

9. Fruit ***changes*** colors/***growing*** larger.

Lesson from the Pumpkin:

10. ***Beware of the varmits***.

John 10:10 (NLT)

[10] The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy.

1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)

[8] Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

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Have you set any guardrails in place in your life to protect you, mature you, to grow more like Christ?

Lesson from the Pumpkin:

11. ***Protect*** the vine, prune the branches, to produce much fruit.

Lesson from the Pumpkin:

12. When all other pumpkins were taken out, I still ***tended to the ONE***!

There is value in the ONE!

2 Timothy 2:2 (NLT)

2 You 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.

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Matthew 28:18-20 (NLT)

18 Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. **19** Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations,[a] baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. **20** Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

"Across the Street, Around the Word!"