

# real-life application

**Q1:** Where do you think you would be if you had never heard the GOSPEL?

**READ:** John 3:3 – the verse speaks of being “born again” –

- Think of when a baby is born – what is needed from the parents for the baby’s health and growth from Hospital to the first birthday?
- Now think of when someone is spiritually “born again” – what is needed from Christians and church “family” to help that person grow?
- Think of your family and all the different roles everyone plays in the development of a baby from childhood to adulthood – what are parallels to church and the Christian life?

**Q2:** What are some other basics of the Christian faith that every Christian needs to know – using your collective knowledge, share with the group some basic ideas and the scripture that goes with it:

**READ:** the following verses and come up with a basic phrase that summarizes the idea and talk about why this would be important for a new Christian to know:

- 1 Peter 2:2-3
- Acts 16:31
- Eph. 2:8-9
- Matt. 4:4
- 2 Pet. 1:20-21
- John 3:16
- Matt. 6:8
- Matt. 6:9-13

**Take Away:** This application will be difficult if you take time to do it, but the benefits outweigh the pain of the exercise. Think of 3 more scriptural ideas that are not in the above list that you think new Christian needs to know. If you can’t think of any, just start reading a New Testament book of the bible, one chapter per day, and let the scriptures teach you. Write your list and share with the group next week. **Let us pray.**

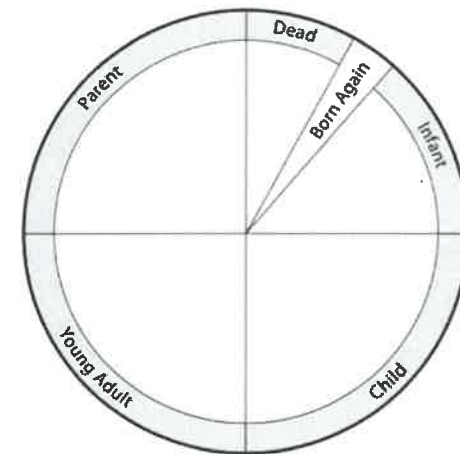
# real-life discipleship

How Disciples Grow: Week 3

**How do disciples grow in Christ?**

**It’s like a \_\_\_\_\_ :**

**The 5 Phases of Spiritual Growth:**



📌 **Phase Zero - Spiritually \_\_\_\_\_**

*Ephesians 2:1* And you were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— <sup>3</sup> among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

## Phase 1 - \_\_\_\_\_ Again

*Ephesians 2:4* But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

*1 Peter 2:2* Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

## Phase 2 - Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_

*Hebrews 5:11* About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. <sup>12</sup> For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, <sup>13</sup> for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. <sup>14</sup> But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil. <sup>6:1a</sup> Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity...

## Phase 3 - Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ adulthood

*Phil. 2:1* So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

## Phase 4 - Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_

*1 Cor. 4:15* For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

*1 Tim. 1:2* To Timothy, my true child in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Titus 2:1* But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. <sup>2</sup> Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. <sup>3</sup> Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, <sup>4</sup> and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, <sup>5</sup> to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. <sup>6</sup> Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. <sup>7</sup> Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, <sup>8</sup> and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

