

COME AS YOU ARE
NO PERFECT PEOPLE ALLOWED
Don't Stay As You Are
Growth Week 3
January 19, 2020
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The First Ingredient of the Soil Is Grace

The Second Ingredient of Our Soil Is Authenticity

The Third Ingredient of the Soil is Intentional Growth

COME AS YOU ARE...BUT DON'T STAY THAT WAY

The goal of spiritual growth is that we would become more loving, life-giving people, who naturally love God by doing His will and more naturally do loving things towards others.

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24-25 NIV

GOD MAKES IT GROW

I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. 1 Corinthians 3:6-7 NIV

We cannot fix or force people to change or grow.

Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful apart from me. "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. John 15:4-5 NLT

When you stay connected fruit happens.

You cannot control the future, and you cannot change what has happened in the past. But you can make the best life giving decision right now with the help of God's Spirit.

1. REGULAR PERSONAL INVENTORY

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Psalm 139:23-24 NIV

Live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. Galatians 5:16 NIV

Spend your time and energy in training yourself for spiritual fitness. Physical exercise has some value, but spiritual exercise is much more important, for it promises a reward in both this life and the next. 1 Timothy 4:7-8 NLT

2. REGULAR INPUT AND COMMUNICATION

Regular times of bible reading, prayer and solitude, attending worship and small group.

3. HABIT-BREAKING PRACTICES

You may need a 24-7 spiritual running partner who has grown through the same habit as yours to give you the hope that you can succeed, too.

Stop Cards

Plant yourself in the right soil.
Cultivate right relationships filled with grace and authenticity.
Then be intentional to stay connected.
God will cause the growth.