

Life and Growth

Ephesians 4: ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Our words may reveal what we think but our actions reveal what we believe.

From Him – God

The whole body – Us

Grows – Changes

As each part does its work – helping each other

1 Peter 4: ¹⁰ Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

2 Corinthians 5: ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

Self-Assessment

- Do you see God as the source of life and the source of all you need?

- Do you see relationships – with God and with other people - as your primary need in life?
- Do you submit to God as the boss?
- Do you allow God to be in control of the world and others; and seek to develop control of yourself?

God has not created a path to spiritual and emotional maturity that does not involve other people.