

How to Grow in Christ

*Practical Keys for Your Christian
Growth*

How to Grow in Christ

*Practical Keys for Your Christian
Growth*

Moses Emuze

CONTENT

Preface	6
Chapter 1 My Testimony	12
Chapter 2 Spiritual Growth.....	16
Chapter 3 Bodily and Spiritual Exercise	23
Chapter 4 The Power of Fellowship	32
Chapter 5 Your Spiritual Environment.....	43
Chapter 6 The Grace Walk.....	60
Chapter 7 The Word of God	74
Chapter 8 Practicing the Word of God	92
Chapter 9 Praying in the Spirit	102
Chapter 10 Walking in Love.....	113
Chapter 11 Walking by Faith	126
Chapter 12 The Walk of Righteousness	138
Chapter 13 Just Do It!	153

Preface

In this book I will share with you the wisdom that the Spirit of the Lord has revealed to me concerning the importance of growth in our spiritual life.

The Lord has graciously blessed me abundantly with wisdom and understanding of His word. He was gracious enough not to look at my faults but to judge me according to His mercy and grace.

As (young) men and women in Christ, we have a lot to learn and understand about this new life that we have received from God. At the same time, we are exposed to the things of this world, which can be summed up as the “lust of the flesh,” the “lust of the eyes,” and the “pride of life.”

For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father but are from this world (1 John 2:16 NLT).

Many believe that we are living in the “end times.” We can agree on the fact that we are living in a time where wickedness and lawlessness are at their height, and the love of many is growing cold. Based on the word of God, we can also say that many of the abominations that were prophesied by the prophets of old are happening before our very eyes.

On the other hand, we are living in the most exciting time ever on planet earth. The Bible speaks about a latter glory that is being revealed, which will be greater than the former.

Let us pause for a moment and take a close look at these exciting times. In the book of Acts of the Apostles, we read about the wonderful and marvelous things which the early church did in their time: how they turned the whole world

around in the name of Jesus and how the Spirit of God worked through them with mighty signs and wonders. The deaf could hear, the blind received their sight, the lame walked, and the dead were raised back to life. Now the Bible says that the glory of the latter house shall be greater than the earlier (Haggai 2:9).

This also reminds us of the statement which our Lord Himself made when He was with His disciples. He said:

Verily verily I say unto you, he that believes on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my father (John 14:12 KJV).

As young men and women, boys, and girls in Christ, you are to keep your eyes fixed on Jesus in order to grow the right way. There are enough things in the world right now vying for your attention. The devil knows that you are the future and that you are a great threat to him if you keep your focus on Jesus.

The devil knows that he was already defeated and rendered powerless two thousand years ago at the cross, when Jesus made an open show of him.

He knows that if our youth and young adults in Christ can keep looking to Jesus as their light, then they will subdue the kingdom of darkness, reign in life, and win many of their fellow generation for Christ. That is what it is all about in the end:

Soul winning and growing in grace and Knowledge of our Lord

My brothers and sisters in Christ, know that you are not an ordinary person: you are born of God. You are a child of the living God, called forth to display the virtues of Him who has called us into this marvelous light.

But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light (1 Peter 2:9 NLT).

The Lord has His eyes on you. He is looking for those whose hearts are rich towards Him so that He might show Himself strong on their behalf.

You, who have come to believe in Jesus Christ as the only begotten Son of God, have been brought into this position. Your heart was set toward God the day you received Christ in your life. Now it is time to allow the Holy Spirit to have His way in you.

As a young man or woman in Christ, you are the most powerful person on earth because you will lead the generation to come, and your influence is great. You are not weak; you do not serve a dead God. Your God is alive and manifests His power and glory continuously. He is the same yesterday, today, and for evermore. Therefore, walk in the boldness of the Spirit and in meekness of heart.

But how do you walk and enjoy this life that God has given to us in Christ? How can you grow successfully as young men and women in Christ in this present time?

Challenges and difficulties are to be expected in life and we acknowledge the pressures on you in every sphere of your life, especially relationally – in your workplace and among your peers. The enemy knows that, and he is targeting the mind and heart of this younger generation. In this book, we will discuss several practical aspects of this new life in Christ and how to overcome the challenges.

I would advise you to read this book slowly, and I believe that the Spirit of the Lord will give you great understanding as you turn the pages.

Chapter 1

My Testimony

I want to introduce the topic of being a Christian by sharing my testimony briefly. I still remember how during my high school period, I never agreed with my teachers during geography classes regarding the theory of evolution.

Although I never had open discussions with the teachers, in my heart, I always believed that God was the Creator of the heavens and the earth. You can say that even though I was not consciously following God at that time, and I was not yet born again, my Christian background was still somewhere in me.

It was not until around my late teenage years that the Lord started drawing my heart to Him. How did this go? Now, you must understand that the Lord works in different ways in our lives because we all have different backgrounds and personalities.

Mine went as follows. I started having this strange desire to visit the church again. However, it was not a desire to get to know God but more to meet my friends. In that period, the question of life after death kept coming back to my mind.

For about three months, I kept asking this question in my mind: *“One day, you are going to die and where will you be going to? Heaven, hell or just nothingness?”*

Although I never wanted to over-think this question, it kept coming back. I simply could not dismiss this thought. It even troubled me to such an extent that I was afraid to go to sleep in case I might not wake up the next day.

I was convinced that should I die, I would not be able to go to God. This was because I knew deep

down that I was not in right standing with God. I cannot explain this, but I knew that if I died, I would end up in hell.

But as I was struggling with these thoughts, I also was reminded that Jesus Christ died for my sins on the cross. This knowledge I regained through visiting the church again regularly. Mind you, I was visiting the church just to chill out with friends. But unconsciously, I was receiving the message and it reached the point where, after much struggle with myself, I chose to give my life to Jesus Christ.

My heart was certain about this decision, but my mind, my "head knowledge," was fighting against it. You must understand this; there is something beyond our mental faculties and that is our heart (and when I say heart, I mean the inner person, the real you).

At last, I chose to follow my inner feeling and shut down the protests in my mind, and I accepted Jesus into my life. I was then a young man and this was the beginning of my life story with Christ. This

was the beginning of inner peace and fulfillment. I can tell you this with boldness: I will not trade this for anything in this world. Life is empty without Jesus.

But there was much more to my journey than having the peace of mind I was not going to hell. For didn't Jesus Himself say He came to give us life and give it more abundantly (John 10:10)? This abundant life was something I had to pursue with all my heart.

In the coming chapters, I will be expanding on life in Christ, showing you its benefits and how to grow in this new life.

Chapter 2

Spiritual

Growth

After being born again, that is, after you have received Christ as Lord and Savior in your heart, it is vital that that you start growing in Christ. We all know from science if there is no growth in any organism, it dies. So too is it in the Christian life. A Christian must grow to fulfill all that God wants them to be; otherwise he will stagnate.

A Christian must grow effectively to do the works that God wants them to do here on earth. In