

**“...but grow in the grace and
knowledge of
our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ.
To Him be the glory,
both now and to
the day of eternity.
Amen.”**

II Peter 3:18

Growing in Christ: The Goal...

**We are to grow in Christ-likeness,
being conformed to His character,
bearing fruit and
growing in good works**

Growing in Christ: The Power...

**By God's grace,
we have all of the resources
and power we need
to live a life
of perfect obedience
and holiness before God!**

Factors in Growing in Christ:

- Salvation!
- Scripture: Meaningful encounters with the Word of God!, Col. 3:16
- Abide in Christ, John 15:1-16
- Discipline Yourself Toward Godliness, I Timothy 4.
- Baptism.

Factors in Growing in Christ:

- “Latreia Living” ↔ “Worship-Service” Lifestyle
- Have Meaningful Encounters with One Another: Body-Life, Community; Serving and Being Served!
- “Mind-Control”
- Facing Temptations

Factors in Growing in Christ:

- **Enduring Trials and Suffering!**
- **Consistent Corporate Worship!**
- **Loving God Supremely and Demolishing Idols!**

Forms of Prayer:

- Confession
- Thanksgiving
- Worship
- Praise
- Asking
- Supplication
- Intercession

- Prerequisites for Answered Prayer:
- Reasons for Unanswered Prayer:
- The Example of Jesus and Prayer:

Growing in Christ Through Prayer

- Prayer is an act of obedience, Eph. 5:18-19; I Thess. 5:16-18.
- Prayer is connected with our abiding, obeying, receiving, and rejoicing! John 15:7-8, 10-11.
- Prayer is a form of communication...an essential to any relationship! John 15:13-16

Growing in Christ Through Prayer

- Prayer strengthens the message of the Word of God in our minds.
- Prayer brings my thoughts into conformity with God's thoughts.
Psalm 54; Psalm 62; Psalm 63;
Ps. 73.
- Prayer often reveals my selfishness to me! Psalm 67.

Growing in Christ Through Prayer

- Prayer submits my will to the will of God!
 - ✓ Jesus' Example, Matt. 26:37-44.
 - ✓ Jesus' Instruction, Matt. 6:10.

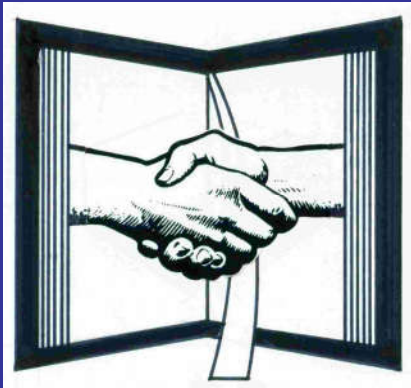
So...Why Don't We Pray???

1. Too Guilty!
2. Too Busy!
3. Too Self-Sufficient!

Practical Prayer Suggestions...

1. Schedule a time!
2. Make a list!
3. Pray throughout the day...about everything!

Prayer is
an essential
discipline,
if we are going
to grow
spiritually!



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