

GROW Curriculum

ECOSYSTEM | GROW

SERIES SUMMARY: 1 Corinthians 3:7 says, “It’s not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What’s important is that God makes the seed grow.” What does it mean to grow spiritually? How do I know if I’m growing? What’s the plan? During our six-week GROW series, you’ll find a clear, simple, biblical growth plan for every believer.

Message summary

When we don’t see growth in our lives, it usually isn’t because of a lack of decision. It’s usually because of a lack of management of a decision. In this message, we’ll learn what it takes to make a great decision and then make a decision great.

Suggested icebreaker

If you woke up tomorrow as an animal, what animal would you choose to be and why?

Video message

As a group, watch the ‘Ecosystem’ video of the GROW message series.

Link: <https://youtu.be/C6PICFnsG-M>

Read aloud

Matthew 13:19-23 says, “When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.²⁰ The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.²² The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. ²³ But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

Discussion

With the video fresh in everyone’s mind, discuss the following topics as a group.

- Spiritual leaders are called to think like farmers, not builders. What are some practical ways you can help grow others?
- How can we ensure that our seeds take root rather than just being a source of momentary joy?
- How do we cultivate good soil in our lives?
- What are some common distractions in your life? How can you combat them?
- We need to carefully protect our root system so that God can help it grow deep. What are some ways you can protect your root system?

Ask for prayer requests and close in prayer

SPIRITUAL PUBERTY | GROW

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Message summary

Much like developing from a kid to a teenager to an adult, spiritual growth is a journey. It’s not always pretty and it’s not always easy, but it’s worth it. Today we’ll see what it looks like to grow from obeying, to sacrificing to reproducing in our spiritual lives.

Suggested icebreaker

Ask each person to share one high and one low of their week.

Video message

As a group, watch the ‘Spiritual Puberty’ video of the GROW message series.

Link: <https://youtu.be/j5DsAl8qpUI>

Read aloud

I Corinthians 3:7-9 says, “It’s not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What’s important is that God makes the seed grow. The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. And both will be rewarded for their own hard work. For we are both God’s workers. And you are God’s field.”

Discussion

With the video fresh in everyone’s mind, discuss the following topics as a group.

- Whether you are a spiritual baby, teenager or adult, how can you work to keep maturing?
- What are practical ways to feed yourself daily?
- Is there anywhere in your life you need to start cultivating obedience?
- How can you start sacrificing resources, such as time?
- What do you think are signs of a strong, healthy spiritual community that is reproducing believers?

Ask for prayer requests and close in prayer

INVITATION | GROW

SERIES SUMMARY: 1 Corinthians 3:7 says, “It’s not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What’s important is that God makes the seed grow.” What does it mean to grow spiritually? How do I know if I’m growing? What’s the plan? During our six-week GROW series, you’ll find a clear, simple, biblical growth plan for every believer.

Message summary

When Jesus shows up in your life He doesn’t just deal with your issues—he deals with your identity. In this message, we’ll dig into how Christ extends to us an invitation of grace and asks us to commit to following Him, even when the path is unclear.

Suggested icebreaker

If you could go back in time and witness any historical event firsthand, where would you go?

Video message

As a group, watch the ‘Invitation’ video of the GROW message series.

Link: <https://youtu.be/e5litU8MBfQ>

Read aloud

Matthew 4:18-22 says, “One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!” And they left their nets at once and followed him. A little farther up the shore he saw two other brothers, James and John, sitting in a boat with their father, Zebedee, repairing their nets. And he called them to come, too. They immediately followed him, leaving the boat and their father behind.”

Discussion

With the video fresh in everyone’s mind, discuss the following topics as a group.

- From our abilities to our careers, we all have things that tether themselves to our identities. How has your identity changed since knowing Christ?
- Is there anything in your life getting in the way of your true identity in Christ?
- Jesus’ invitation to grace causes us to rise up when we fall. How have you seen God’s grace lift the weight of shame or doubt in your life?
- Scripture tells us that commitment to Christ requires sacrifice. How can you keep making the decision to follow Him even when things don’t seem to make sense?

Ask for prayer requests and close in prayer

INFORMATION | GROW

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Message summary

We have three voices in our minds at all times: God’s, Satan’s and our own. Let’s dive into how the word of God can help us feed ourselves spiritually and fight against Satan’s voice—today and everyday.

Suggested icebreaker

If you could choose an imaginary friend, who would you choose and why?

Video message

As a group, watch the ‘Information’ video of the GROW message series.

Link: <https://youtu.be/DDp-Jtn67PE>

Read aloud

James 1:22-25 says, “Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.”

Discussion

With the video fresh in everyone’s mind, discuss the following topics as a group.

- If you make an honest evaluation of your influences, does their information line up with the truth? Do you have any influences you need to reconsider?
- How can we know which voice we’re hearing—God’s, our own or Satan’s?
- The word of God is how we feed and how we fight. How can you make learning the word of God a priority in your life?
- What is one way you can act on God’s word this week?

Ask for prayer requests and close in prayer

IMITATION | GROW

SERIES SUMMARY: 1 Corinthians 3:7 says, “It’s not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What’s important is that God makes the seed grow.” What does it mean to

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Message summary

God calls us to love generously, but we should also be extremely selective with who we allow to influence us. In this message, we'll meet Jedi, amigos and grasshoppers and how to evaluate our influences.

Suggested icebreaker

If you didn't have to sleep, what is the one thing you would do more of?

Video message

As a group, watch the 'Imitation' video of the GROW message series.

Link: <https://youtu.be/lPnWg11SqlU>

Read aloud

Matthew 9:18; 23-26 says, "...the leader of a synagogue came and knelt before him. 'My daughter has just died,' he said, "but you can bring her back to life again if you just come and lay your hand on her."

When Jesus arrived at the official's home, he saw the noisy crowd and heard the funeral music. 'Get out!' he told them. 'The girl isn't dead; she's only asleep.' But the crowd laughed at him. After the crowd was put outside, however, Jesus went in and took the girl by the hand, and she stood up! The report of this miracle swept through the entire countryside."

Acts 4:13-14 says, "The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men with no special training in the Scriptures. They also recognized them as men who had been with Jesus."

Discussion

With the video fresh in everyone's mind, discuss the following topics as a group.

- Do you allow "Jedi" to speak hard truths into your life or do you have walls up? Who do you know who can be a model of a godly spouse, parent, friend, business owner?
- How can you encourage your amigos/as? How can you build each other up?
- Who has the most influence in your life? Do you need to seek out better influences or reevaluate who you allow to influence you?

Ask for prayer requests and close in prayer

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Message summary

Tribulation is often God’s way of preparing us for what lies ahead. To wrap up the GROW series, we’ll continue in Matthew and see how God encourages us to engage in trials and lean in to the challenges in our lives.

Suggested icebreaker

Share an embarrassing story from your childhood.

Video message

As a group, watch the ‘Innovation’ video of the GROW message series.

Link: <https://youtu.be/08MRAXUAd08>

Read aloud

Matthew 10:16-20 says, “Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes and harmless as doves. But beware! For you will be handed over to the courts and will be flogged with whips in the synagogues. You will stand trial before governors and kings because you are my followers. But this will be your opportunity to tell the rulers and other unbelievers about me. When you are arrested, don’t worry about how to respond or what to say. God will give you the right words at the right time. For it is not you who will be speaking—it will be the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.”

Discussion

With the video fresh in everyone’s mind, discuss the following topics as a group.

- Have you ever encountered a time of tribulation that you later realized was really meant to prepare you?
- Innovations emerge from limited resources. How can you shift from a scarcity mentality to an abundance mentality when resources feel limited?
- Jesus teaches us to lean in to the challenge. How can you prepare yourself now for the struggles that might come?
- Why is it important to embrace suffering rather than back down?
- When you face struggle, do you tend to engage or disconnect? How can you face trials head on?

Ask for prayer requests and close in prayer