

Measuring Growth-January 26, 2022

Where are we in "God's Grow-Up Plan"?

David and Belinda Sharpe gave us a chart for us to see where we are in our Christian maturity. The common thread with every marker that was shared is that God grows us.

When the Holy Spirit opens our eyes and shows us how much we need Jesus, we believe and accept him. This is when we are born into the family of God. This fact is firmly established, we are no longer our own.

As we grow in our walk with God, He doesn't love us more or less, we are His children. But what good Father wants their child to remain in the nursery all their lives? The example of growth, change, and reproduction is displayed in all the natural world around us.

Baby believers who live connected with the Father, drink deep the milk of the Word, thrive, grow, and enter into the next stages of maturity.

As God's children, there is so much more life to live beyond the spiritual nursery! Abundant, connected, vibrant life! Jesus came to bring us life in Him. In Him, we live and move and have our being. (Scripture) As we surrender our plans to Him, ask for His guidance, spend time connecting with Him in the Word, prayer, and worship, He opens doors for us to live the lives we are designed to live.

(Scripture) Growth does not happen on our timeline but on His! But it does track in accordance to our surrender and obedience.

Take a minute to think of how our society measures human growth and compare it to God's plan:

Today's Society:

Infant > Toddler > Child > Tween > Teen > Young Adult > Adult > Senior

God's Family:

Infant (New Believer) > Child (Disciple) > Young Adult (Servant Leader) > Mature Adult (Reproducer)

Let me say, that God's growth chart doesn't have physical ages attached to it. Some reproducers are younger in years than new believers or disciples who could be the age of their grandparents.

There is no shame in owning up to where we are spiritually, but we cannot live beyond where we are or regress from where we should be.

In today's society, we have been taught to delay maturity. In God's Family, we are to encourage growth, responsibility, and give room for each other to use their gifting. We need to care for one another in the love of God, with mercy, grace, and forgiveness.

The ultimate goal is for us to grow closer to Jesus, each other, and bring others to Jesus. Until He comes again, dear family, let's grow

Be Encouraged!

Liz