

AUTHENTIC GROWTH

Matthew 28:18-20; Galatians 2:20-21 & Philippians 2:12-13

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Spiritual growth is **incarnational**.

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in my body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Galatians 2:20

"Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence... For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases Him." Philippians 2:12-13

- B. Spiritual growth takes **intentionality** (it's not automatic).

"For I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

- C. Spiritual growth is **personal**.

"Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in the faith. Test yourselves." 2 Corinthians 13:5

I. AUTHENTIC GROWTH IS THE RESULT OF SPENDING TIME WITH JESUS.

- A. *"If you want to be my disciples you must come and follow me, because my servants must be where I am. And if they follow me, the Father will honor them."* John 12:26

- B. Authentic growth is about loving Him with **all** our hearts (supremely).

"If you want to be my follower you must love me more than your own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, more than your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:26

II. AUTHENTIC GROWTH HAPPENS BEST IN COMMUNITY.

- A. *"Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."* John 13:35

"If you want to be the most important person you must take the last place and be a servant to everyone else." Mark 9:35

III. AUTHENTIC GROWTH COMES FROM OBEYING CHRIST COMPLETELY.

- A. *"If you continue to obey my teaching you are truly my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."* John 8:31-31

- B. What's the measurement? Jesus states that it is obedience.

CONCLUSION