

Growing Is More Than Believing

Grow: The Way of Transformation

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Introduction

*Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. ¹⁴ He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach ¹⁵ and to have authority to drive out demons. **Mark 3:13-15***

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. **Acts 2:42***

Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, ⁸ so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.

1 Thessalonians 2:7b-8

Main Idea: Growing to be more like Christ is more than believing; it requires belonging. We are a family!

We believe people grow more spiritually when they are connected relationally.

We are better together.

We want to move you from rows to circles. From worship services to being in a group.

What does it mean to belong?

I. We learn to love one another.

*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” **John 13:34-35***

The foundation for loving one another is your love for and fellowship with Christ.

*We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. **1 John 1:3***

II. We encourage one another.

*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. **Hebrews 10:24-25***

III. We serve one another.

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. **1 Peter 4:10***