

Small Group Guide



Growing in Christ - Moving Beyond Spiritual Infancy

Opening Question: Think back to when you first became a Christian. How has your faith journey changed since then? What areas have you grown in, and where do you still feel like a "spiritual infant"?

Key Takeaways:

1. Spiritual growth is essential for followers of Christ. We're not meant to remain as "infants" in our faith.
2. A lack of spiritual maturity leads to worldly behavior, division, and a failure to reflect Christ to the world.
3. As new creations in Christ, we are called to be ambassadors of reconciliation.
4. Transformation requires offering our whole selves to God and submitting to His authority.
5. Our deeply held beliefs can make it difficult to hear and accept new truths.

Discussion Questions:

1. Pastor Jeff mentions that the Corinthians "had experienced forgiveness, but had not experienced the transformation that the Holy Spirit wants to bring to their lives." How do you see this playing out in modern Christianity?
2. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.** What does it mean to be an "ambassador for Christ"? How does this role relate to our spiritual growth?
3. The sermon talks about the need to "reject the wisdom of our day." What are some cultural values or beliefs that conflict with biblical teachings? How do we navigate these conflicts?
4. Pastor Jeff emphasizes the importance of humility in spiritual growth. Why is humility so crucial? How can we cultivate a humble attitude when it comes to our beliefs and opinions?

5. The sermon mentions scientific research about how our brains resist change when our beliefs are challenged. How have you experienced this in your own life? How can awareness of this tendency help us grow spiritually?
6. Discuss the statement: "The key to actually opening up and being willing to see the world in a different way is being seen and loved and understood." How does this relate to our relationship with God and with others?