

Discussion Guide

01/28/2024

Grow God's Way

Pastors Daniel & Jackie Groves

Main Idea

Growth is a continual process. Today we celebrate 9 years at Hope City with a powerful message on how growth requires us to be stretched to a place of TRUSTING God so we can truly rely on the STRENGTH of God.

Anchor Verse: Not that I have obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. (Philippians 3:12)

Growth Can Uncomfortable

Stagnation puts out the fire of God. Growth, however, puts wood on the fire. Yet, similar to the growing pains of a young person, it can be uncomfortable. There are benefits in growth spurts.

What are you doing to grow your faith? What have you done in the past that has been effective?

Why Does Growth Have To Be So Uncomfortable?

1. God has our full attention outside of our comfort zones
2. Nothing ever grows in a comfort zone (Proverbs 3:5-6; Philippians 4:13)
3. Only when you are stretched to a place of TRUSTING God can you truly rely on the STRENGTH of God (James 1:2-4; Isaiah 42:16)

What is the comfort zone that God is trying to move you out of? What area of your life are you struggling to trust God?

Why Are There So Many Highs and Lows With Growth

Our thought life must be surrendered to the plans of God every day.

Read John 6:63; Matthew 26:41; Galatians 5:16

Where do you see the Spirit giving you life? What are you actively doing to strengthen your Spirit?

Why Doesn't Growth Feel More Satisfying?

The more we grow in our relationship with God, the more we desire His presence. Like hunger pains for a child who is growing, when you are growing in Jesus, you will hunger for more of God.

Read Psalm 73:25; Matthew 5:66

What are you filling your life with?

SUMMARY

We all need to grow. We need to stop leaning on our own understanding. To grow, we need to acknowledge Him in all our ways and allow Him to stretch us. God is the one who meets our needs and satisfies them. We need a nearness and dependence on God.

CALL TO ACTION

1. Growth can be uncomfortable, but there are great benefits to growth spurts. Take a few moments to reflect and measure your growth spurts and milestones.
2. Pastor Jackie said that without discomfort we get stuck. Invite others into your life who are also growing, and give them permission to make you uncomfortable.
3. Today was HC Group Launch! Consider taking that step by [LEADING](#) or [JOINING](#) a Connect Group so that you can build authentic relationships and grow your spiritual life.

GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

Game: Getting to Know You

As some of us are beginning with a brand new set of people in our groups, here are some great questions to help get to know your participants. Simply ask your choice of questions to someone and then go around the room and allow each person to respond.

1. What is a hobby or activity that you currently enjoy outside of work?
2. What TV Show or movie did you love as a kid (and why)?
3. If there were a movie about your life, who would you want to play you in the film, and why?
4. What is your Hope City story? (In essence, what brought/who brought you to Hope City, how long have you been attending, etc.)
5. Why did you join our group and what do you hope to gain from it?