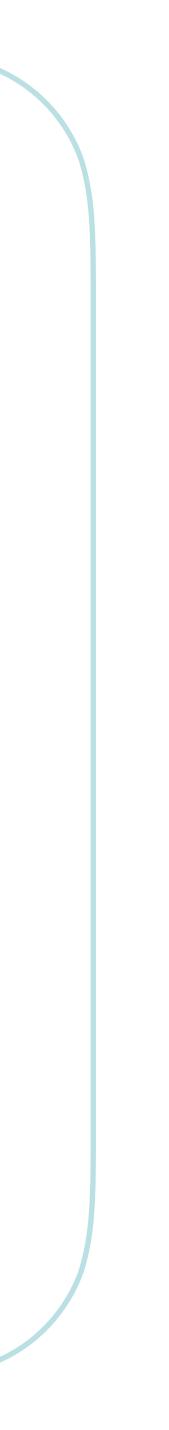
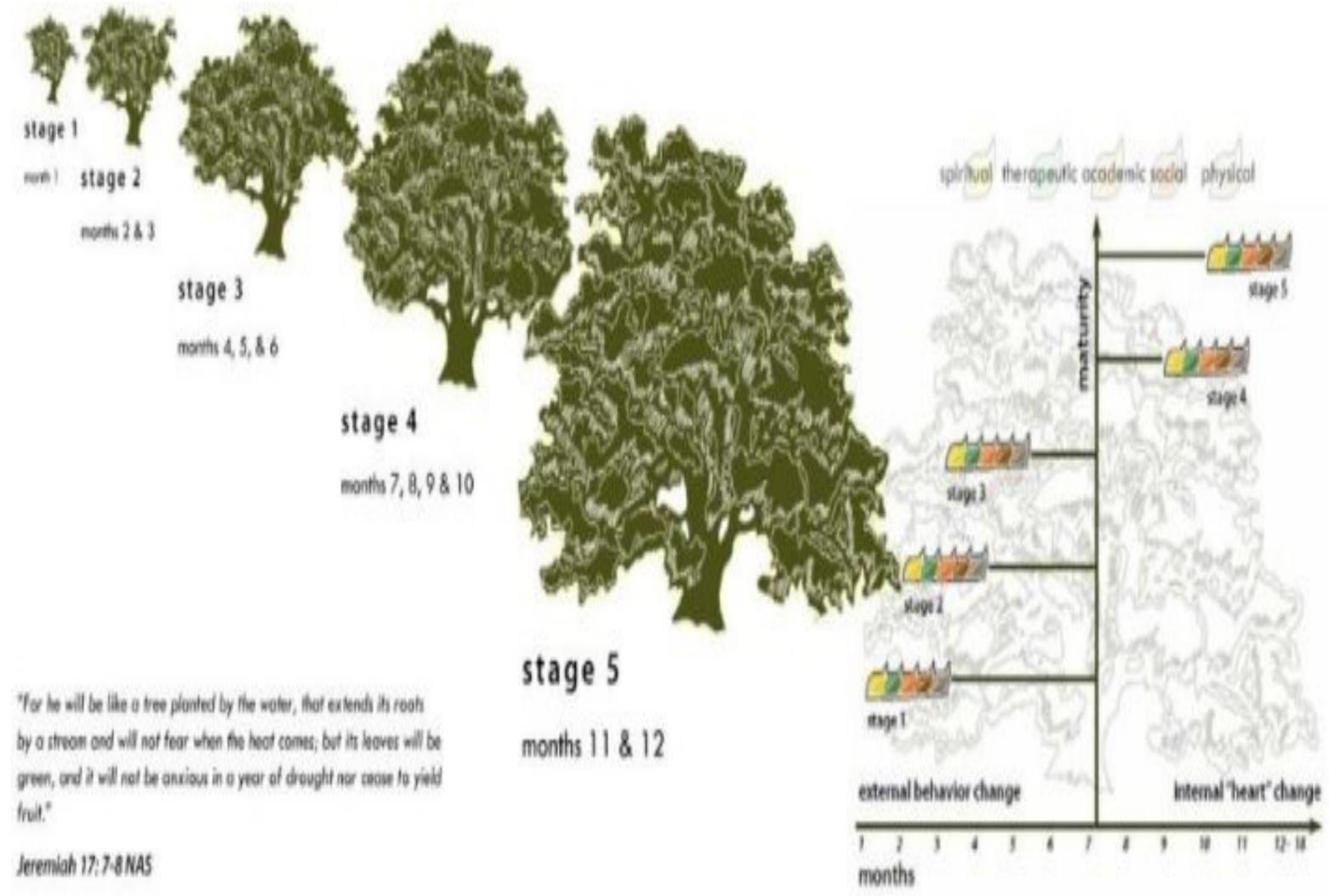
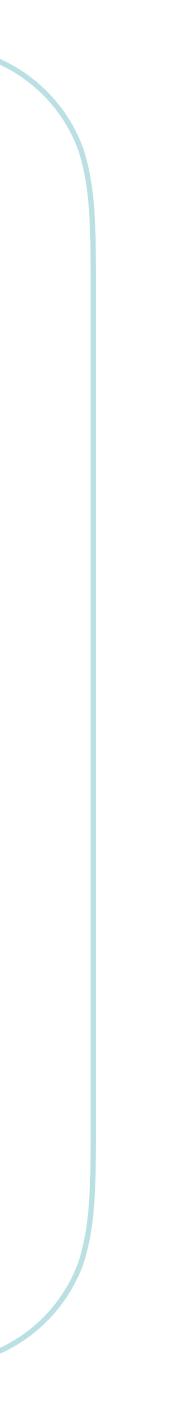
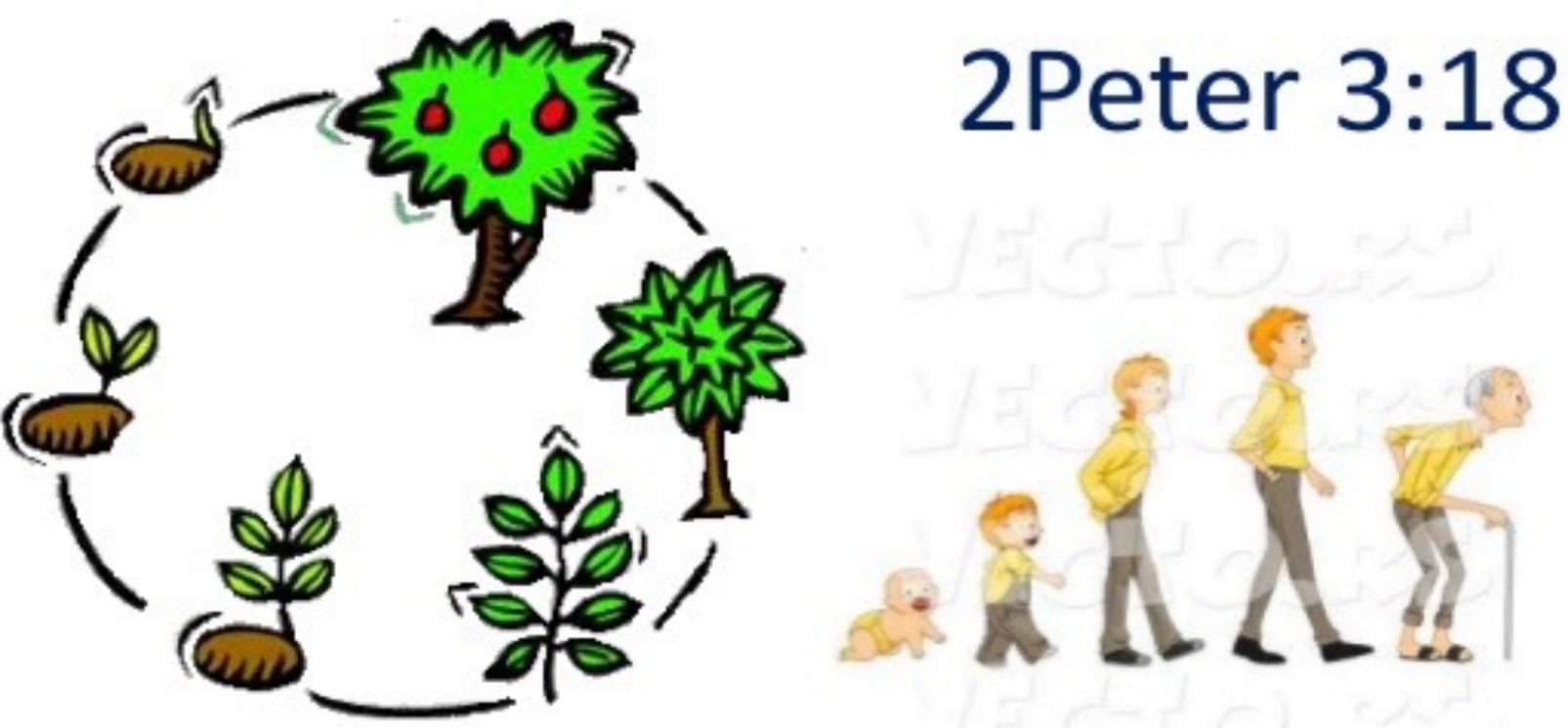
Stages of Christian Growth 1 Peter 2:1-2

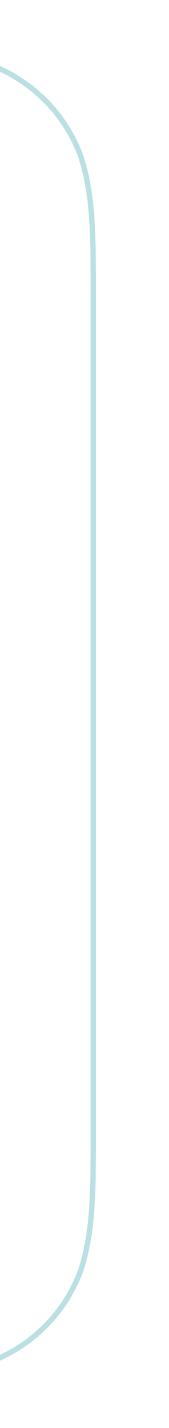




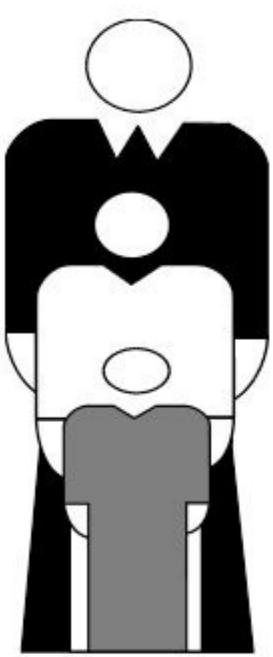


Object Lessons in Growth & Maturity

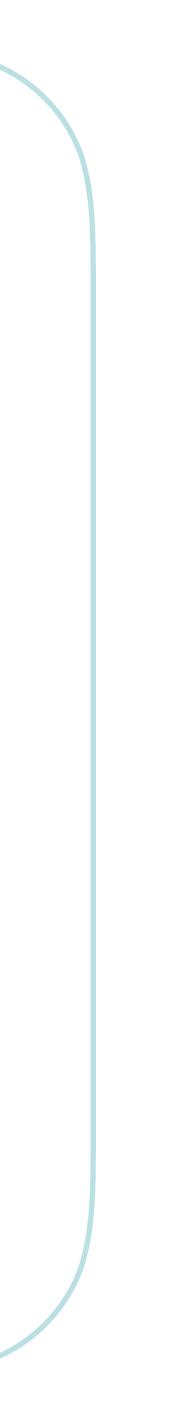




Solid Steps of Christian Growth



A Study of 2 Peter 1:1-11



DEAD

22

SPIRITUALLY DEAD: People in this stage have not yet accepted Christ as Lord and Savior. They may completely reject Got, or they may be seeking God. They may be "spiritual", and they may even dale to know God or be a Christian. In reality, they are their own

TRAITS

or underand

They are lost and unaware of it.

They are living out their feelings.

"Im a good person."

THE

"I think there may be a higher power."

"Im too busy for a small group."

INFANT

SPIRITUAL INFANT: in this stage, people have accepted Christ, but haven't moved much past that point. They can be new believers, or they might be stagnant, longtime Christians. Life is generally all about them and their needs.

TRAITS

They are the lord of their life.

They are confused about what truth is or they are beginning to learn the truth.

PHIRASES

THEY MIGHT SAY.... "Christians are hypocrites."

Tim a good person, a lowing God would never send me to HelL*

"The Church just wants my money."

Tim too bury for a small group."

5 STAGES

CHILD

SPIRITUAL CHILD: In this stage, people are growing in their relationship with God, and are also beginning to grow in their relationship with other Christians. They are applying God's Word in their IVes and allowing others to walk beside them in their journey following Christ. However, its still mostly about them - their needs, comfort, etc.

TRAITS

They are growing in their relationship with God.

They are building relationships with other believers.

They are developing habits of Bible study and prayer.

They are plugging into relational environments for the purpose of discipleship areal groups!

They are giving of their time and money.

PHRASES THEY MIGHT SAY ...

" love my church because i feel like i belong."

"My small group is great! They make me feel welcome."

"I'm upset about having to branch our small group. I just started making friends."

ADULT

SPIRITUAL YOUNG ADULT:

in this stage, people are making a big shift from being self-centered to more others-centered. They're beginning to understand their role as a giver, rather than a taker. They are ministering to others, putting others first. They are being doers of the Word.

TRAITS

They are becoming less self-centered and more others-centered.

They are beginning to see themselves as ministers.

They are tithing and giving of their time from a place of thankfukees and love.

They understand the Kingdom purpose of branching their small group.

PHRASES THEY MIGHT SAT ...

"The going to visit Bob in the hospital tonight rather than going to the movies."

"Trn serving in the nursery so that parents can atlend a service."

"I need to branch my small group, but no one else is heady to lead."

PARENT

SPIRITUAL PARENT:

in this stage, the Parent has a solid understanding of God's Word and a deep, abiding relationship with the Father. They are bring out God's Word in their lives daily. They are others-centered and God-dependent. They are able to reproduce mature disciples of Christ by institut others to follow them as they follow Christ.

TRAITS

They are mature disciples of Jesus, but continually growing and developing in their personal relationship with God and as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

They are skilled at assessing where others are in the discipleship process and getting personally insolved to help them grow and develop.

They understand their role as one who needs to intentionally invest in others - making disciples who can make disciples.

They are becoming a coach who develops other players/leaders.

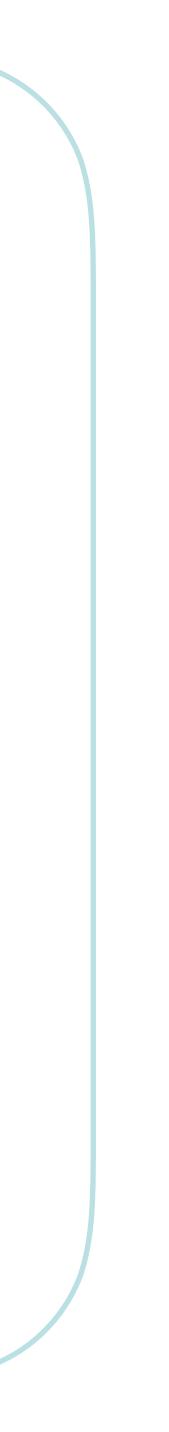
THEY MIGHT SAY

The next time I visit Bob in the next time I visit Bob in the hospital to help him learn how to minister to others."

"I have a couple good potential leaders in my home group that i'm going to personally invest in."

Larry is a fine homegroup leader, and he has really matured in his faith. I'm going to ask him to pray about becoming a

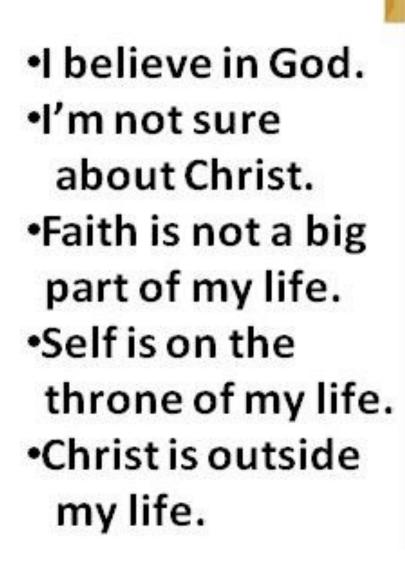
GROWTH



Stages of growth towards being a Christ-centred disciple.

Growing in Christ Exploring Christ

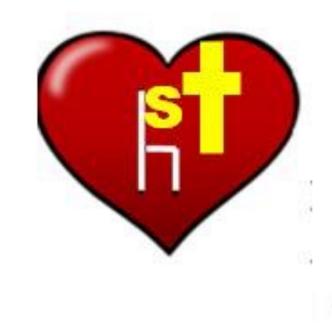
> **Accept Christ** as Saviour



- •I trust Jesus for eternal life.
- I've invited Christ into my life.
- I'm working on what it means to know Jesus.
- Self is still on the throne of my life.

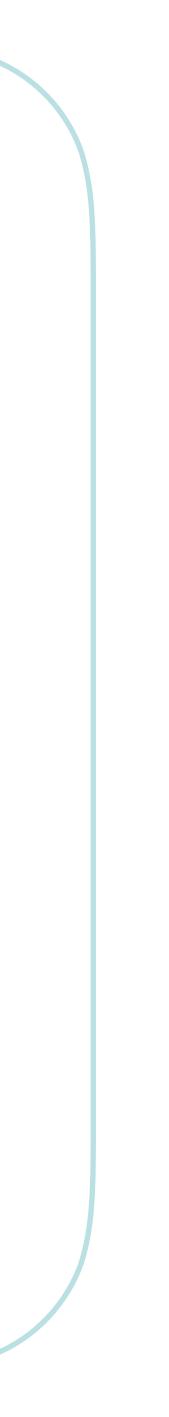
Christ-Centred **Close to Christ**

Willing to risk everything for Christ

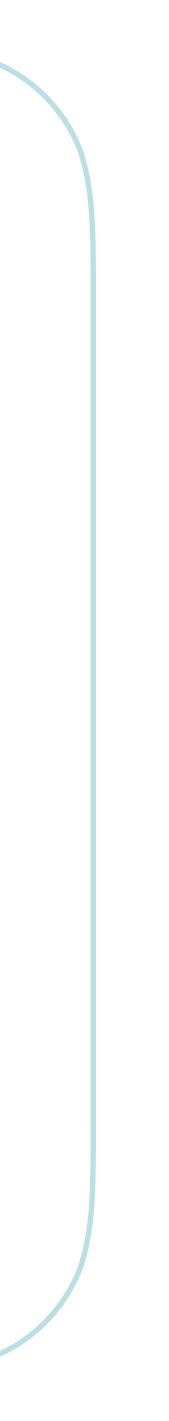




- •I feel really close to Christ.
- •I regularly read the Bible.
- •I try to obey God often.
- •Self is still on the throne of my life.
- •My friendship with Christ is the key part of my life. •I try to surrender to Christ in all areas of my life. I try to let Christ be on the throne of my life.



No Life	 Not a Christian. 	Spiritually dead. Insensitive to God's presence and purpose.
New Life	 New Christian. 	Not fully grown but the potential like a seed is all there.
Lots of Life	Growing Christian	He is sensitive and alert to the special life that is flowing through him. Evidences of life.
Doesn't nurture life	• Backsliding Christian	He sees no fruit and is living contrary with himself.
Ignores life	 Fallen away 	A person who ignores the needs of his spiritual life. Perhaps he has even left the Christian faith.
Abundant life	 Mature Christian 	A Christian who has consistently grown over a number of years. The growth is steady and the fruit is consistent.



Non-Believer

"I currently do not believe in Christ, and I am not interested in exploring what it means to be a Christian."

3%

Beginner

"I believe in God, but I am not sure about Christ. My faith is not a significant part of my life.

24%

