



PART 3: CALLED TO GROW

Sermon Notes

Text: Mark 4:26-29

Intro:

Bethel Church Mission: We exist to worship God, grow in faith and show the world who Jesus is.

We are being empowered to grow!

Grace and Truth are required in balance to grow in our relationship with the world around us...

"Compassion for people and passion for Truth.

Ephesians 4:15 "...speaking the truth in love, we grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ"

We can't manufacture growth, but rather understand how to RELEASE THE BIOTIC POTENTIAL which God has put into every living organism.

For Growth the Right Conditions Need To Be Present!

1. The Word of God (Teaching)

Hebrews 5:12-14 "...and you have come to need milk and not solid food... for he is an infant...But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil"

God ordained leaders are given by God to equip the body to grow!

2. Fellowship (Ministry One To Another)

I Cor 14:26 "When you meet together, one will sing, another will teach, another will tell some special revelation God has given... but everything that is done must strengthen all of you"

Identify the gifts God has given you!

3. Breaking Bread (Covenant Relationships)

The glue that holds relationships together is commitment

The Biblical Term is 'COVENANT'

Pslams 92:12-15 "The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will **grow** like a cedar of Lebanon; planted in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the courts of our God

To Grow You Must Be Planted

To say I am growing spiritually and despise those in the body where I am planted is a misnomer.

4. Prayer (Passion for God)

When passion morphs into duty, life is missing from the relationship!

We discover passion when we begin to praise and worship with abandon!

Conclusion:

Spiritually empowered GROWTH will be the AUTOMATIC result when the conditions are right!

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. Have you ever wondered how a plant sprouts up from the soil? Have you wondered how a baby develops in the womb?
2. What stood out to you about Sunday's sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

1. Read Acts 2:42-47. Does it make sense that the four things listed in verse 42 had something to do with the rapid growth of the early church?"
2. How important do you believe it is that there be a proper balance of grace and truth in the believers life? In what ways do you see it affecting the testimony of us as Christians? Of us as a local church?
3. How important to you are the 'hierarchical' relationships that God has established in families (husband/wife)? In the church (Pastors/ Teachers etc? (I Cor 12:18)

Application:

1. Do you need to get 'planted' in a LifeGroup?
2. Is it time to find out your gifting so that you can minister more effectively in the body

Prayer:

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