- C. Discern next steps. Partner with God's Spirit to discern what to do next -- how to bring someone to Christ and invite them to church.
 - "... Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled."

 Luke 14:23b
 - Share yourself, your faith, and the gospel of Christ.

"that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgement of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus."

Philemon 1:6

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear."

I Peter 3:15

- "...How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10:15b
- Invite someone to church.

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more, as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:25

Are You Willing To Commit To Grow By Bringing?

" but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." II Peter 3:18

GROWTH TRACK Take Your Next Step

Grow By Bringing
Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. Spiritual maturity means being like Christ. It begins with a decision to be saved and continues with a spiritual growth process called progressive sanctification. This process requires taking ongoing NEXT STEPS of obedience to the Bible. The key to rapid spiritual growth is to immediately say yes to God when He reveals a next step to you.

" but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

II Peter 3:18

B. The example of the first church, the church at Jerusalem, provides a foundational GROWTH TRACK of next steps for all Christians to follow and obey (Acts 2:41-47). In this series, you will discover five next steps of a growing Christian and how Capital Baptist Church can help you take them.

Aug 13	Ready, Set, Grow!
Aug 20	Grow By Belonging
Aug 27	Grow By Connecting
Sep 3	Grow By Serving
TODAY	Grow By Bringing
Sep 17	Grow By Worshipping

The purpose of Capital Baptist Church is to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

C. TEXT: Acts 2:47b (Pew Bible/Pg. 1175/New Testament)

"After thirty five years of pastoring, I am convinced that spiritual immaturity is the number one problem in the local church today." -- Pastor Steve Reynolds

GROW BY BRINGING

- I. THE GOODNESS OF GOD LEADS PEOPLE TO BELIEVE
 - **A.** We bring people by first modeling the goodness, kindness, and love of God.

"...knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance" Romans 2:4

"We love Him because He first loved us."

I John 4:19

- **B.** Do we speak only the goodness of God?
 - "but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—"

Ephesians 4:15

II. SHARING YOUR FAITH STARTS WITH HAVING A RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS

Developing relationships with people is the most important building block to becoming a bringer.

- "...Go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15b
- "8 So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.
- 9 For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God.
- 10 You are witnesses, and God also, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved ourselves among you who believe;

11 as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children, "

I Thessalonians 2:8-11

III. ONE TOUCH EACH WEEK

Prioritize your time to invest in eternal things. Make at least one touch with someone each week.

"So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." Psalm 90:12

"15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,

16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil."

Ephesians 5:15-16

IV. INVEST AND INVITE – THE 3 D'S

A. Develop friendships and show people you care.

God uses personal relationships with people to bring people into a personal relationship with Him. People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. (Some studies estimate 86% come to Christ because of a relationship.)

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

"A man who has friends must himself be friendly..."

Proverbs 18:24a

- **B.** Discover stories. Find out who people are. Ask questions and really listen. Everyone has a story to share.
 - "37 Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'
 - 38 This is the first and great commandment.
 - 39 And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 22:37-39