

GROWTH TRACK
Take Your Next Step

Grow By Serving
Pastor Eddie Arrindell

C. Abilities: What are my natural talents and skills?

"And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,"
Exodus 31:3

D. Personality: Where does my temperament best suit me to serve?

"Your hands have made me and fashioned me, An intricate unity; Yet You would destroy me."
Job 10:8

E. Experiences: What are my life experiences?

*"3 Blessed be... the God of all comfort,
4 who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. "*
II Corinthians 1:3a-4

1. Spiritual Experiences
2. Painful Experiences
3. Educational Experiences
4. Ministry Experiences

IV. COOPERATE WITH OTHER BELIEVERS (Romans 12:4-5)

"It takes ten hands to score two points."
- John Wooden, Former U.C.L.A. Basketball Coach

- A. Every member is a minister in Christ's body. (v. 4a)
- B. Every member has a different function. (v. 4b)
- C. Every member's ministry is important. (v.5a)
- D. Every member belongs to the others. (v. 5b)

V. APPLY YOURSELF (Romans 12:6-8)

"Do not neglect the gift that is in you, ..." I Timothy 4:14a

Are You Willing To Commit To Grow By Serving?

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

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.

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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
TODAY	Grow By Serving
Sep 10	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 2:44-45 (Pew Bible/Pg. 1175/New Test.)

"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 SERVING

Romans 12:1-8

- Our Philosophy is **Every** Member A Minister.

"10 As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

11 ... that in all things God may be glorified." I Peter 4:10-11b

The **Reality** of Spiritual Gifts (4:10a)

The **Reason** for Spiritual Gifts (4:10b)

The **Requirement** for Spiritual Gifts (4:10c)

The **Result** of Spiritual Gifts (4:11)

Objective: To see every member of our church minister with their spiritual gifts as good stewards for the glory of God.

- The basic **problems** in lay ministry:

Disuse - Uninvolved People - Lack Commitment

Misuse - Unqualified People - Lack Training

Abuse - Over Worked People - Lack Help

I. PRESENT YOURSELF (Romans 12:1)

- A. The greatest ability is **availability**.

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me." Isaiah 6:8

- B. Ability without availability is an **abomination**.

Common Excuses:

1. Don't have **time**.

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

Ephesians 5:16

2. Don't have **energy**.

"But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31

3. Don't have **knowledge**.

"11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,"

Ephesians 4:11-12

II. ELIMINATE WORLDLY DISTRACTIONS (Romans 12:2)

"No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier. "

II Timothy 2:4

You can **invest** your life in **eternal** things or **spend** your life on **temporal** things.

III. EVALUATE YOURSELF (Romans 12:3-5a)

"But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. "

I Corinthians 12:18

- A. **Spiritual Gifts**: What am I **gifted** to do?

"Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. " II Timothy 1:6

Four Ways To Identify Your Spiritual Gifts:

1. Your gifts will come **naturally** (no imitation).

2. Your gifts will produce **joy**.

3. Your gifts will give you a sense of **fulfillment**.

4. Your gifts will require a **minimum** of effort and will result in a **maximum** of effectiveness.

- B. **Heart**: What do I **love** to do?

"Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart." Psalm 37:4

"This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. " I Timothy 3:1