

Seasons of Growth
Part 6 of 6 - Vineyard Values

“Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching...”
Ephesians 4:14 (NIV)

SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS incarnational.

“(It’s) ... a life renewed from the inside and working itself out into your conduct as God accurately reproduces his character in you.”
Ephesians 4:23–24 (MSG)

REALITY: SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS BOTH MYSTERY AND PRACTICAL.

THE LAWS OF GROWTH

1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS intentional.

MYTH: Growth is automatic.

REALITY: WE GROW BY CHOICE.

“Our tools are ready at hand for clearing the ground and building lives of obedience into maturity until finally we all believe ... and become full-grown in the Lord—to the point of being filled full with Christ.”
Ephesians 4:13 (LB)

A FEW TOOLS WE USE:

1. Communication Card
2. Covenant (Agreement) in Membership
3. Program Outline

2. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS incremental.

MYTH: Growth is instant.

REALITY: WE GROW GRADUALLY.

“ ... our lives are gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like him.”
2 Corinthians 3:18 (MSG)

3. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS habitual.

MYTH: You can’t do anything about spiritual growth.

REALITY: WE MUST FORM HABITS.

“Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another...” Hebrews 10:25 (NIV)

4. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS relational.

MYTH: You can grow to maturity by yourself.

REALITY: WE NEED PEOPLE.

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”^[1] The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’^[2] There is no commandment greater than these.
Mark 12: 30-31 (NIV)

5. SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS seasonal.

REALITY: WE GROW VISIBLY IN SPURTS.

“As long as the earth remains, there will be springtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, day and night.”
Genesis 8:22 (NLT)

THE TOOL WE USE:

Quarterly small groups.