

# HOW ARE YOU DOING?

## EVALUATING YOUR GROWTH

*“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith;  
prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves,  
how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?”*

~ 2 Corinthians 13:5

### 1. Are You Growing?

- a. *"Let us go again... and see how they do"* - Acts 15:30+
- b. *"...because your faith groweth exceedingly"* - 2 Thess 1:3
- c. Church has been compared to a school, hospital, training camp, gym, why?
- d. Are you growing? Are you making progress? Taking steps? On track?

### 2. What Is Your Goal?

- a. Church is not a spectator sport, entertainment venue, or social club: there are goals
- b. Bible study vs. church ministry = one performs examination/confirmation - 2 Cor 13:5
- c. There is an end game/judgment/accountability - 2 Cor 5:1-11; 1 Tim 2:4; 1 Thes 4:3
- d. You measure health, weight, money, career, time, stage in life; why not God's will?
- e. You can't grow unless you know where you are growing.
  - i. Rom 16:25; 1Co 16:14; Gal 5:24-25; Eph 3:19; Phil 4:13; Col 1:28; 2 Tim 3:17

### 3. What Does Growth Look Like?

- a. Measurement/examination allows you to see how your growing
- b. Your standard is not one another - 2 Cor 10:12; nor how far or fast, but what sort
- c. Law measurement was external/behaviorial; but now it is internal/spiritual - 1Co 2:15

### 4. How to Grow

- a. Start with Paul's epistles without which growth is stunted - Scofield's note
- b. 4 stages of spiritual growth: 1) salvation; 2) establishment; 3) sanctification; 4) service
- c. Paul prays for growth to completion in Colosse - Col 1:9-11
- d. How to walk worthy is found in Eph 4:20-24: put off, renew your mind, put on
- e. Paul's curriculum on pg 99/100 of Start Rightly Dividing, and ends with 1 Tim 1:5

### 5. What If You're Stuck

- a. Thank God for his grace - we received him by grace, we walk in him by grace - Co 2:6
- b. Faith comes by hearing the word of God - Rom 10:17
- c. Use the tools of growth: Bible, prayer, praise/rejoicing, fellowship/church
- d. Get help, communicate, pray, minister to someone else, think on these things Phi 4:1-8
- e. When the battle is over, we are each accountable to the Lord. How are you doing?

**Paul's Curriculum**

<http://graceambassadors.com/tips/pauls-curriculum>

Romans: Laying a doctrinal foundation; instilling right doctrine

Corinthians: Producing good works under grace; moving people to act

Galatians: Walking in the Spirit, not under law

Ephesians: The nature and mission of the church

Philippians: The mind of Christ; instruction in maturity

Colossians: Operating complete in Christ

Thessalonians: Comfort and hope waiting for the return of the Lord

1 Timothy/ Titus: Teaching and leadership instructions

2 Timothy: Final words for faithful men

Philemon: Paul's example of charity