



GROWTH SPURTS

"But, speaking the truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, which is the Head, even Christ."— Ephesians 4:15

Researchers say parents in America spend an average of sixty dollars per month on baby clothing. That is a lot of money. If your child is going through a growth spurt, it can seem like the money is going down the drain fast. On the other hand, would you rather have your child stop growing?

It can be hard, especially for parents, to watch a child struggling to grow and develop properly.

It's even more difficult, however, for our Heavenly Father to watch us faltering spiritually. Paul grieved that the Corinthian believers weren't maturing spiritually: "I have fed you with milk, and not meat, for you were not able to bear it. Neither yet now are you able" (1 Corinthians 3:2).

Some of the signs of spiritual immaturity are envy, strife, and division (1 Corinthians 3:3), being tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, (Ephesians 4:14), and failing to discern good from evil (Hebrews 5:14).

Committing your life to Christ may take just a moment, but spiritual growth is a lifelong process that takes place in cycles. As Peter says, add to your faith virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly love, and charity. As time goes on, believers grow toward maturity and fruitfulness in each of these qualities.

Do you have that desire to grow?

Father, help us to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. To God be the glory, now and forever. In Jesus, Amen.



