

Stages of Spiritual Growth and Development 1 John 2.12-14

**Non-Christian** (Spiritual birth precedes spiritual growth and development)

1. 7+ billion Jn 3.16 God loves World = People.
2. The Holy Spirit convicts... Jn 16.8
3. ...and when the person repents and believes in Jesus... Mk 1.15
4. ...he or she is born spiritually into God's family. Jn 3.3

**A newborn Christian is a spiritual infant.**

What do babies need?

1. Babies Need Milk - 1 Peter 2:2
2. Babies need a Foundation - Hebrews 6:1-2
3. Babies need Parents 1 Thess 2:7,11

**A growing Christian is a spiritual child.**

What do growing children need?

1. Children need to [feed themselves](#) Heb 5.12-14
2. Children need Examples Phil 3.17
3. Children need Discipline Deut 10.12-13

**A maturing Christian is a spiritual adolescent.**

What do adolescences need?

1. Adolescences need to [forsake](#) lesser pursuits. - Lk 14:26
2. Adolescences need to [follow](#) Jesus' teaching. - John 8:30-32, Acts 20:32
3. Adolescences need to [fellowship](#) with God's family. - John 13:34-35, 1 Jn 3:16
4. Adolescences need to bear [fruit](#). – Gal. 5:22-23

**A mature Christian is a spiritual adult.**

What do adults need?

1. Adults need to [reproduce](#) / have children. Matthew 9:36-38; John 15:8
2. Adults need to make disciples. Matthew 28:18-20
3. Adults need to [raise children](#) to reproductive maturity! 2 Tim 2.2/ Col 1.28-29

Message

Spiritual growth is a process in which you participate.

So What? Now What? Action Points:

- Spiritual growth is a natural process that the Holy Spirit does in the life of a student-follower of Jesus, but it is a process you can help or hinder. You can interrupt the Spirit's work in your life.
- Mark you calendar:

Five Thursdays in July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> to learn how to do a daily quiet time that includes prayer, Bible reading, meditation, Scripture memorization, etc.