

5 tips on growing in Christ



by Drew Crandall

1. Commit to being “fertile soil.”

In Matthew 13, Jesus speaks a parable about different types of soils. Please meditate on verses 1-23 and commit to the Lord in prayer that you are willing to be fertile soil for His Word. God will honor that prayer *big-time*...and He will make your life abundantly fruitful and rewarding.

2. Ask to be filled with the Holy Spirit daily.

It's fantastic to receive the gift of eternal life and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. It's also life-changing when you realize that the Holy Spirit wants to FILL you continuously. All it takes is your asking Him to fill you, you giving Him permission to fill you, and He will! He will make your life abundantly fruitful and rewarding. See Galatians 5:16-25. I'd recommend Dr. Charles Stanley's two-tape series and book entitled "The Wonderful Spirit-filled Life." Visit www.InTouch.org for details.

3. Start each day in prayer and meditation on the Word.

Make morning devotions as normal as eating breakfast, brushing your teeth, shaving and showering. God will bless the time you spend with Him, and equip you with just the spiritual food and wisdom you need for the new day. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you clarity and wisdom on what should be done in ministry, business, and personal life TODAY. Make a written list and seek to diligently do the things He inspires you to do. Remember, faith without works is dead!

4. Seek to make your Christian walk relevant in everyday life.

Avoid the temptation to feast on the Word and become an intellectual theologian instead of an everyday, "in the trenches" Christian. Don't worry about the future...it's already taken care of! Seek to make your relationship with Christ relevant in your day-to-day personal life, married life, school life, work life, and community life. That's when your testimony will shine most brightly!

5. Participate in a local Bible-believing church.

Stay plugged into a local church, and faithfully participate in worship services, Sunday School, and other ministries as led by the Holy Spirit. Ask Him to show you what spiritual gifts He has divinely chosen to give you, and use them for the benefit of the church. You can't bloom if you're not planted!

