# seven øssentials 70

"In ratio to its size, 2 Peter speaks more relevantly to the modern issues of sexual permissiveness, tolerance of pluralistic doctrine, the nature of authority, and the basis for Christian hope than any other letter of the New Testament."

—Ray Stedman

00.jpg 01.jpg

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

-2 Peter 3:18 ESV

Examine the Concept of Growth

02.jpg 03.jpg

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. —1 Peter 1:3-5 ESV

Growth is dependent upon one foundational reality—LIFE!

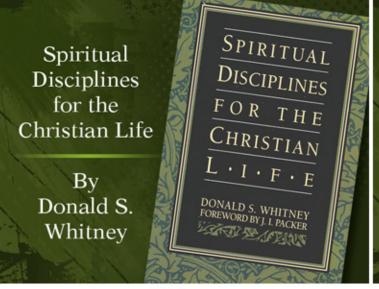
04.jpg 05.jpg

# Demands

# Disciplines

06.jpg

07.jpg



"Ours is an undisciplined age.
The old disciplines are breaking down... above all the discipline of divine grace is derided as legalism or is entirely unknown to a generation that is largely illiterate of the Scriptures. We need the rugged strength of Christian character that can come only from discipline." —Raymond Edmond

07a.jpg 08.jpg

... discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness... —1 Timothy 4:7b NASB

Difficulties

09.jpg 10.jpg

<sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. —1 Peter 1:6-7 ESV

<sup>2</sup>Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup>for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

—James 1:2-3 ESV

11.jpg 12.jpg

<sup>1</sup>I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. —John 15:1-2 ESV

**Establish Some Growth Indicators** 

13.jpg 14.jpg



God-Centered in Living

15.jpg 16.jpg

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. —Matthew 6:33 ESV

## Regular in Bible Study

17.jpg 18.jpg

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. —1 Peter 2:2-3 ESV

### Outward in Focus

19.jpg 20.jpg

<sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." —Matt. 28:18-20 ESV

"The holiest moment of the church service is the moment when God's people—strengthened by preaching—go out the church door to the world to be the Church. We don't to go church; we are the Church."

—Ernest T. Campbell

21.jpg 22.jpg



27.jpg 28.jpg

<sup>5</sup>Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. <sup>6</sup>In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. —Proverbs 3:5-6 ESV God-Centered in Living
Regular in Bible Study
Outward in Focus
Weekly in Worship
I nvolved in Ministry
Navigating with Providence
Giving Faithfully, Cheerfully
and Generously

29.jpg 30.jpg

<sup>6</sup>The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

<sup>7</sup>Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

<sup>8</sup>And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

-2 Corinthians 9:6-8 ESV

31.jpg 32.jpg

If there were a yardstick to measure the spirit, and you could record all the past; I wonder what answer you'd find to this question: Are you taller this year than last?



33.jpg 34.jpg