Growing in Salvation #SermonSalvation Growing God's Way - Part 3 Dr. Mark Jackson - September 17, 2017

Ephesians 4:13b ...We must <u>become like a mature person</u>, <u>growing until we become like Christ</u> and have his perfection. (NCV)

Four Things Growing Christians Do

1. LIVE ACCORDING TO GOD'S PURPOSE (VS 8)

2 Peter 1:8 If you keep growing in this way, it will show that what you know about our Lord Jesus Christ has made your lives useful and meaningful. (CEV)

Proverbs 16:4 The LORD has made everything for **his own purposes**... (NLT)

The Benefit Of Living God's Purposes

It Gives **MEANING** To Your Life

Job 7:16 Leave me alone and let me die; my life has no meaning. (CEV)

• It Gives You **PEACE**

Isaiah 26:3 You, LORD, give <u>perfect peace</u> to those who keep their <u>purpose firm</u> and put their trust in you. (TEV)

It FOCUSES Your Life

Ephesians 5:17 Don't live carelessly, unthinkingly. Make sure you <u>understand what</u> <u>the Master wants</u>. (MSG)

• It **MOTIVATES** You

Ephesians 1:11a It's in Christ that we find out who we are and **what we are living for**. (MSG)

It Prepares You For ETERNITY

Romans 6:13b ...give yourselves to God... surrender your whole being to him to be used for righteous purposes. (TEV)

2. SEE THINGS FROM GOD'S PERSPECTIVE (VS 9)

2 Peter 1:9 But <u>if you don't grow</u>, you are like someone who is <u>nearsighted or blind</u>, and you have <u>forgotten that your past sins are forgiven</u>. (CEV)

Revelation 3:17 You claim to be <u>rich and successful</u> and to have everything you need. But <u>you don't know how bad off you are</u>. You are <u>pitiful</u>, <u>poor</u>, <u>blind</u>, and <u>naked</u>. (CEV)

Colossians 3:2 Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. **Look up**, and **be alert** to what is going on around Christ—that's where the action is. **See things from his perspective**. (MSG)

3. ACT LIKE GOD'S PEOPLE (VS 10)

2 Peter 1:10 My brothers, God <u>called you</u> and <u>chose you</u> to be his. Try hard to <u>show that you really are God's chosen people</u>. If you do all these things, <u>you will never fall</u>. (ICB)

Matthew 7:21 Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. (NIV)

Titus 1:16 Such people <u>claim to know God</u>, but their <u>actions prove that they really don't.</u> (CEV)

4. LOOK FORWARD TO GOD'S PROMISES (VS 11)

2 Peter 1:11 Then <u>God will give you a grand entrance into the eternal Kingdom</u> of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (NLT)

Hebrews 13:14 For this world is not our home; we are **looking forward to our everlasting home in heaven**. (LB)

Hebrews 10:23 Now we can <u>look forward to the salvation God has promised</u> us. There is no longer any room for doubt, and we can tell others that salvation is ours, for there is no question that he will do what he says. (LB)

2 Corinthians 1:20a For all of **God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ** with a resounding "Yes!"... (NLT)