

**II. CONNECT WITH PEOPLE BY ATTENDING A GROWTH GROUP**

**A. Get the facts.**

Growth Groups are generally 8-12 people who are typically about the same age and stage of life that meet weekly to connect relationally and grow spiritually. The group meeting includes time for the meet and greet, praises and prayer requests and Bible study with discussion.

**B. Recognize the models.**

*“13 And He went up on the mountain and called to Him those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him.*

*14 Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach,”* Mark 3:13-14

**C. Overcome the obstacles.**

*“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”* II Tim 1:7

*“redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”*  
Ephesians 5:16

**D. Understand the benefits.**

*“A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”* Proverbs 18:24

*“As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.”* Proverbs 27:17

**E. Pick the group.**

Choose your Worship Service, then choose your Growth Group.

**Are You Willing To Commit To Grow By Connecting?**

*“ but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”* II Peter 3:18

**GROWTH TRACK  
Take Your Next Step**

Grow By Connecting  
Pastor Steve Reynolds

**INTRODUCTION**

**A.** Spiritual maturity means being like Christ. It begins with a decision to be saved and continues with a spiritual growth process called progressive sanctification. This process requires taking ongoing NEXT STEPS of obedience to the Bible. The key to rapid spiritual growth is to immediately say yes to God when He reveals a next step to you.

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**B.** The example of the first church, the church at Jerusalem, provides a foundational GROWTH TRACK of next steps for all Christians to follow and obey (Acts 2:41-47). In this series, you will discover five next steps of a growing Christian and how Capital Baptist Church can help you take them.

Aug 13	Ready, Set, Grow!
Aug 20	Grow By Belonging
TODAY	Grow By Connecting
Sep 3	Grow By Serving
Sep 10	Grow By Bringing
Sep 17	Grow By Worshipping

The purpose of Capital Baptist Church is to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

**C. TEXT:** Acts 2:42-43(Pew Bible/Pg. 1175/New Test.)

*“After thirty five years of pastoring, I am convinced that spiritual immaturity is the number one problem in the local church today.”* --Pastor Steve Reynolds

## GROW BY CONNECTING

### I. CONNECT WITH GOD BY ESTABLISHING A DAILY QUIET TIME

#### A. Connect with God through Bible study.

*“16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,*

*17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” II Timothy 3:16-17*

Think S.P.E.C.S. as you study the Word:

- **S**ummarize the passage

Pick out the major points and put them in your own words.

*“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”* John 17:17

- **P**romises to claim

There are thousands of promises in the Bible.

*“...in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, ...”* Heb 6:18b

- **E**xamples to follow or avoid

There are 2,930 Bible characters.

*“Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, ...”* I Corinthians 10:11a

- **C**ommands to obey

Obedience is doing what you are told to do, when you are told to do it, with the right heart attitude.

*“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* James 1:22

- **S**ins to confess

The ultimate purpose of Bible study is not information, but transformation.

*“He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.”* Proverbs 28:13

#### B. Connect with God through prayer.

*“2 So He said to them, “When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.*

*3 Give us day by day our daily bread.*

*4 And forgive us our sins, For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one.”*

Luke 11:2-4

- **P**raise and thanksgiving. (v 2a)

*“Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness!”* Ps 150:2

- **R**epent of sin. (v 4)

*“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* I John 1:9

- **A**sk God to meet your needs and the needs of others. (v 3)

*“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”*

Matthew 7:7

- **Y**ield to the will of God. (v 2b)

*“And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.”* Romans 6:13