

# Church Matters: What binds our hearts together?

## A commitment to spiritual growth

Pastor Andrew / FBC Leadville / 11.25.18

### Key Idea

God's new covenant people should be tightly bound together as they spiritually grow together.

### What is the spiritual growth?

The maturing process...

of one who by grace has been given new life in Christ...

and who through grace takes regular steps in becoming more like Christ...

all empowered by the indwelling Holy Spirit.

### Why should I be committed to the process of spiritual growth?

Because God has provided grace for spiritual growth (2 Peter 1:1-4)

Grace to those who by faith in Christ have been made righteous (1)

Grace to those who have received God's powerful enablement (2-3)

Grace to those who have participated in God's promised rescue (4)

Because God expects effort in spiritual growth (2 Peter 1:5-7)

Effort that involves active diligence (5)

*Giving all diligence*

*Add to your faith*

Effort to pursue moral behavior (5-7)

*Virtue* - moral excellence & character

*Knowledge* – comprehending and understanding truth

*Temperance* – restraint, self-control

*Patience* – perseverance, endurance, steadfastness

*Godliness* – reverence & loyalty to God

*Kindness* – brotherly love and affection

*Love* – sacrificial love and selflessness

Because God has enabled benefits from spiritual growth (2 Peter 1:8-11)

The benefit of assured usefulness in the present (8)

The benefit of clear purpose of the past (9)

The benefit of confident assurance for the future (10-11)

### How does spiritual growth happen?

Through regular nourishment from God's Word

1 Peter 2:1-3

Through regular interaction with Christ's people

1 Peter 2:4–10

1 Peter 5:1-5

Through regular recognition of the Spirit's comfort in trials

1 Peter 4:12-19

1 Peter 5:10–11

### So What?

Do you have new life in Christ?

Are you actively growing in Christ?