

**Grow** to increase gradually in size, amount, etc.; become greater or larger; expand.

Spiritual growth is positive and continued development in a person's relationship with God, becoming who He desires them to be. Just like any other relationship, development and progress involves two-way communication and time. Intentional, spiritual growth must be a high priority.

Spiritual growth has a goal.

Read **2 Peter 1:3-9**

Where does His divine power for your growth come from?

Verse 5 says "make every effort" to grow in your walk with God; what does that mean?

What does verse 8 say is the result of this growth?

Read the following verses and share what your spiritual growth is dependent on.

**Philippians 1:6**

**John 14:26, 16:13**

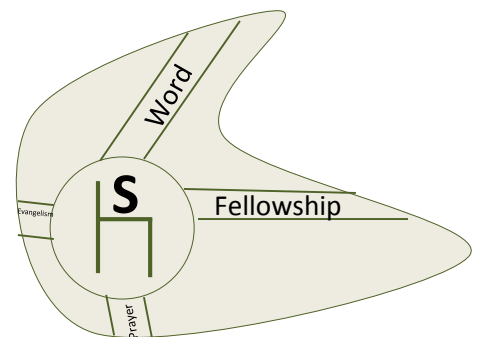
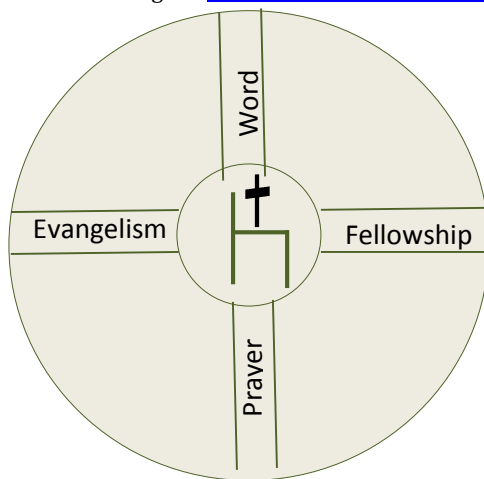
**1 Peter 2:2**

**James 1:21-22**

**Hebrews 3:13**

## *Growth Circle Diagram*

To see a video of this go to [www.MasterPlanMinistries.net/diagram-video-tutorials](http://www.MasterPlanMinistries.net/diagram-video-tutorials)



When Christ is on the throne of our life, empowering us in these godly activities, we will grow in our relationship with God, in our relationships with others as well as grow emotionally. Just as a snowball rolls down a hill because its round, we will continue to grow as we are filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit and give our time and energy to these godly activities. However we can do the activities of spending time in God's Word, pray, share our faith and encourage other believers to love and serve God more, but if Christ is not on the throne of our heart, enabling us, the fruit will not be of the Spirit and therefore our growth will be distorted.

In the coming weeks, we will talk more about each individual spoke of the wheel but as a foundation, it's helpful to know growth happens as we take initiative in the power of the Holy Spirit to obey God and leave the results up to God. It's also helpful to recognize our vertical relationship (time spent with the Lord in prayer and His Word) determine our horizontal relationships with others (in fellowship and evangelism).

Read the following verses and discuss the results of the growth that takes place in our lives.

**Psalm 84:11**

**Romans 5:3-5**

**1 Corinthians 10:31**

**2 Corinthians 3:18, Romans 12:1-2**

**Galatians 5:22-23**

**1 Thessalonians 5:11**

**James 1:5**

Growth in your walk with God will continue till the day you go home to be with Jesus. He is the One who is in charge of your growth (Phil 1:6) but it is vitally important that you intentionally submit to that process on a regular basis. Time in God's Word, prayer, sharing your faith and being committed to a community of believers will promote growth in your relationship with God and others.

What stood out to you from this week? Why do you think it stood out to you?

What is one way you can apply something from this week?