

PLAN
Let's Grow #3
January 22, 2012

Big Idea: Spiritual growth happens intentionally not accidentally.

CREATING A PERSONAL SPIRITUAL GROWTH PLAN

1. Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails. Proverbs 19:21 (NIV)

Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.
Proverbs 16:3 (NIV)

But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. Jude 20-21 (ESV)

Spiritual growth and prayer are Inseparable.

2. Passionately commit to following Christ.

But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, ⁹and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, ¹⁰that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; ¹¹in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. Philippians 3:7-11 (ESV)

Gaining Christ is worth giving up everything.

3. Plan growth goals based on your personal spiritual assessment.

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:12-14 (ESV)

- **Specific goals provide direction and motivation.**
- **Celebrating milestones along the way builds confidence and momentum.**

4. Pursue a disciplined growth process.

...train yourself for godliness; ⁸for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. 1 Timothy 4:7-8 (ESV)

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. Hebrews 12:11 (NIV)

- **Training trumps trying hard every time.**
- **Process determines results.**

Canopy Roads' Life Development Process

- *Come* to Christ daily.
- *Connect* with believers weekly.
- *Contribute* your gifts sacrificially.
- *Change* your world significantly.