How Does One GROW in the Lord?

Well, How Does one grow in real life?

1st/ you learn to crawl before you can walk - called repetition.

2nd/ you learn by what you see and hear.

3rd/ you ask questions.

4th/ you learn to read, so you can learn more.

So it is with the Lord, (Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.)

Now EVERYBODY is given the same measure of FAITH to believe in Jesus, but not everyone uses it.

(Romans 12:3 as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.)

(2Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.)

What this means - Is once you have ask Jesus To teach & guide your life, the sinful things you are doing, no longer are appealing to you, they are no longer fun or appealing to you.

(Romans 10:10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.)

This means that as you tell people you are a Christian, your FAITH grows. This is equivalent to being a baby.

The rest is not in any prescribed order of growth.

(2Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.)

(Psalms 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.)

This means - 1st/ READ THE BIBLE - It is his written word and HE SPEAKS to you through it. As you ask him to give you the understanding, you will be SURPRISED at how a verse or phrase will seem to jump right out at you.

You can read the Bible many many times and as your need changes, the scripture will seemingly jump out at you for the need at hand.

ALSO read others testimony's and memoirs, as this helps your faith grow and builds your character.

(Hebrews 10:2 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.)

IN other words - 2nd/ HAVE FELLOWSHIP with other Christians.

A good bible study where you can ask questions and be a part of your group.

Attended a church but be cautious, ask the Lord to direct you so you can grow.

(2Timothy 3:5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.)

You See, there are many local churches in this day and age that preach tradition, habit, old testament stories, Peter Pan and just the love of God. In other words just bits & pieces, nothing to prick your conscience.

(<u>John 14:6</u> Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.)

BUT TO GROW you need the full gospel, you know, Jesus is the ONLY way, without his shed BLOOD there would be no remission of SIN, heaven with the benefits and HELL with the consequences. How to walk closer To Jesus.

(John 10:1 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.)

(Psalms 21:2 Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and hast not withholden the request of his lips.)

This means 3rd/PRAYING or just plain talking to the Lord, YOU Know, like you would your friend or spouse. He also speaks to you, when things just pop into your head, things that help you and are always for your growth.

4th/FASTING

(Mark 9:29 And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.)

Fasting is denying yourself of food, allowing the Holy Spirit to cleanse you, it also cleanses the physical body and as the above scripture says, there are certain types of sickness or forces of hell that will not respond to normal type prayer.

These are four BASIC steps to take if you want to grow in your Christian walk. If you want to wither and die, JUST IGNORE THEM.

(Mark 4:5 And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of earth:)

There is more, but if you do the basics, You'll know.

Bro Ken