

## Adult Impact Study Sheet

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September 10, 2023 – Growing in Christ

If possible, read **2 Peter 3:18 and Colossians 1:9-14** from several translations.

For additional insight go to [www.studylight.org](http://www.studylight.org) and [www.gotquestions.org](http://www.gotquestions.org).

1. *The Wordless Book* is a tool that helps explain the Gospel to children. The color green is used to help the child see that he needs to grow in his newfound faith. Why is that such an important part of the Gospel message?
2. If a mother gave birth to a child, but as time passed and the mother has provided in every way for the child, but that child did not grow naturally as it should have, she would be very disappointed. When God gives new birth to a person, but that person does not grow spiritually as he should, how do you think God feels? Has Father God failed to provide all His child needs to grow?
3. “We’re dependent upon the righteousness of Christ for our acceptance with God, and upon the power of Christ for our ability to pursue spiritual growth.”<sup>1</sup> (emphasis mine) Jerry Bridges describes these as the two bookends we need to keep our various means of growth (*figuratively speaking “books”*) in place. Discuss his comment in light of Scripture.
4. How does 2 Peter 3:18 relate to the preceding verse (17)?
5. Consider growing in grace and knowledge in light of 2 Peter 1:5-8.  
  
“Believers are to use God’s power and every ounce of determination to produce the eight characteristics mentioned.”<sup>2</sup> What does it mean to give every effort/give all diligence?  
  
In 2 Peter 3:18 the verb “grow” is a present imperative, meaning “continue growing.” How should that be evidenced in the life of a believer?
6. In Colossians 1:9, Paul sets an example for us. We need to be praying for one another that we would grow in grace and knowledge. He says that will happen “through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives.” What does that mean?
7. Paul shares that growing in the knowledge of God and His will results in these areas. Discuss each one.
  - Living a life worthy of the Lord
  - Bearing fruit in every good work
  - Being strengthened with all power
  - Giving joyful thanks to the Father

<sup>1</sup> Jerry Bridges devotional *Two Bookends*, 8/28/23

<sup>2</sup> Life Application New Testament Commentary, 1132