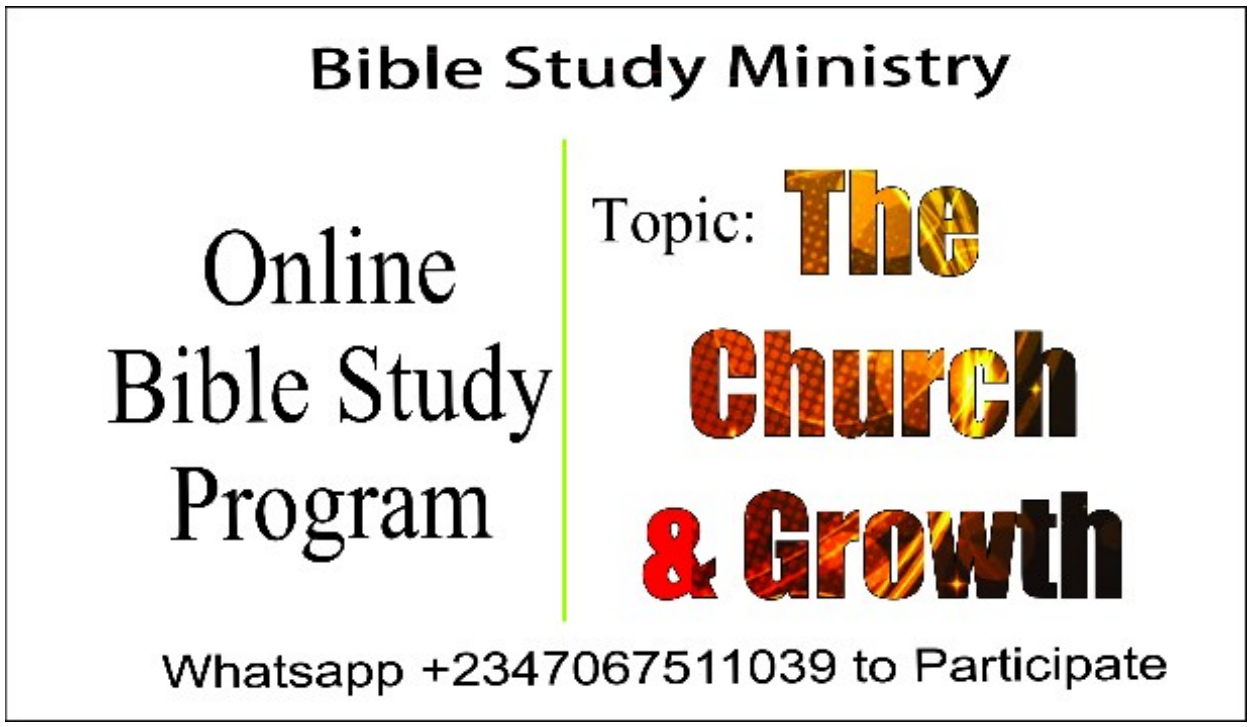


Topic: The Church & Growth

Bible Text: Ephesians 4:13

Teacher: Emaye Oluwafemi

Our dear Father we honor Your name, we say thank You for Your love and another privilege to be here to learn from You, we pray that You'd teach us to understand in Jesus name I pray.

I encourage us to open our heart as the Holy spirit help us in this Study tonight. This night we shall be considering a very important topic that is needed at this time. Luke 2:40 **And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon himJesus grew.I thought he was God in flesh,yes,yet he needed to grow.**

The child grew. Who was this child? Jesus!, So if Jesus had to grow, then it is also essential that we grow. As long as we are still in the world there will be need for growth for we dwell in the realm of time. So Jesus needed to grow cos he was on earth, Jesus was was still the Word of God from birth yet he needed to grow. Not to talk of we that were conceived in iniquities that took the blood and cross to reconcile us back to God.

What is Growth?

Growth is a system by which we quit being unfruitful to being fruitful

As long as anything remains a babe, he is limited. So God required us to grow 1 Peter 2:2 says "**As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow**

thereby ...**that ye may grow** very important

It is very important that we all as Christians grow to be like Christ, in spiritual warfare children are those that fall victims. Matthew 2:18 KJV **In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.**

We can see from here that Rachel wept for her children for they were no more. You will agree with me that if these children had grown stature, they wouldn't have been killed. That is one of the dangers of remaining at the baby stage of Christianity. But when we grow, then we'll see the manifestation of this verse.

Hebrews 5:14 KJV

But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

May the Lord help us to grow in the knowledge of Christ

Now to our anchor verse. This will tell us the height which Christ expect us to attain even as his followers. A lot of Christians suffer from series of problems that has been conquered from salvation but because they are yet to attain a height where they can lay hold of these blessings they just remain at that position. It is just like how our parents did when they wanted to keep something out of our reach, then, they'd keep it on Cupboard and Wardrobe because they know our hands couldn't reach there, but in the case of God, he's willing that we have them but we must attain maturity.

2 Peter 1:3 KJV

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

Let see our text

Ephesians 4:13 KJV

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

The text says " *Till we all come..."*

This indicate that we are not where we ought to be, but where does he want us to come into? He wants us to come into the fulness of Christ, It is so important that we as a Church grow to be like Christ, Let look at the book of Ephesians 4: 11-13. [11] **And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 4:12 For the perfecting of thsaints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 4:13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of**

the fulness of Christ: It says " *He gave some apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teachers.*

But these five offices are to function for three reasons...

1) For the perfecting of Saint

2) For the work of the ministry

3) For edifying the body of Christ

But if we refuse to make use of these offices for the reasons Christ have sent them, then we cannot fulfill the purpose for which God has sent us, because the expectation of Christ is that we all grow to be like him, vs 13 explains how we can be made perfect as saint, work in the ministry and be edified**. It says till we all come in unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the son of God**

We as Christ like, we can only work as a branch of God, we all need the help of others. If you're an Apostle you still need the help of other offices if not the reasons for the establishment of this office will not be accomplished which is to make perfect saint through the knowledge of Christ.

Over time our spiritual leaders have created a lot of problem for us, they have successfully impacted a wrong mind set in us, which is different from that of Christ, Most times due to population, they restrict us from benefiting from the will of God.

Churches that preach kingdom wealth have made it look to their members as if those that preach Holiness are missing out, Whereas the mandate of Christ is that we all grow through **the knowledge of Christ**

...into a perfect Church

A single person cannot have the whole of God in him

Therefore everyone need the help of another.

The Lord is never in the business of wasting resources, you can not expect Christ to keep labouring on you then, at the end he sees nothing. When Christ got to that tree and found no fruit, he cursed it...so it could be very dangerous to refuse to grow.

John 15:5 KJV

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

It is clear from this verse that the best we can be is a branch of the tree, So for us to reach where God want for us, we must maximize the five fold office available, If you limit yourself to a particular aspects you can never grow to the perfection of Christ

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: So please I encourage us to see reasons to grow as Christ is, so don't be deficient in any part of God, Be intensional about your growth. So please let's grow to be like Christ **That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;...** Romans 8:19 KJV **For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.**

Let's grow so that our feet maybe established as Children of God, growing above babes into men. So that we can fulfill the he purpose of God. May the Lord bless us. Amen.

Note

If you were blessed and want more PDFs check here - https://t.me/bsmonline

For comments, questions and others you can contact us, and If you want to be placed on our broadcast list on WhatsApp or to be a member of bible study online ministry WhatsApp **+2347067511039.**