

“CLOTHED WITH HUMILITY”

1 PETER 5:6

INTRODUCTION:

1. Pride can exist when one thinks of too highly of himself.
2. Peter reminds us to be humble. (1 Pet. 5:5-9)
3. King Uzziah is an example of the problem of pride.

I. AN OLD TESTAMENT EXAMPLE

- A. Pride can come because of great success.
 1. **2 Chronicles 26.16:** Uzziah became king at the age of sixteen and served the Lord faithfully.
 2. **2 Chronicles 26.6-15:** Uzziah enjoyed success as king.
 3. **2 CHRONICLES 26.16:** *“But when he was strong”*
- B. Pride can cause you to fall from God.
 1. **2 Chronicles 26.16:** Uzziah transgressed God’s law.
 2. **2 Chronicles 26.17,18:** Uzziah was confronted.
- C. Pride can destroy your life.
 1. **2 Chronicles 26.19,20:** Uzziah broke out in leprosy.
 2. **2 Chronicles 26.23.** Uzziah died a leper. (Prov. 16.18)

II. A NEW TESTAMENT EXHORTATION

- A. Love will help us be humble.
 1. **PHILIPPIANS 2.2:** *“having the same love”*
 2. Love does not seek its own. (1 Cor. 13.4)
- B. Living as a servant will help us be humble.
 1. **PHILIPPIANS 2.4,5:** *“let each esteem others better...”*
 2. I am here to serve you. (Gal. 5.13)
- C. Sacrifice will help us be humble.
 1. **PHILIPPIANS 2.5-8:** *“made Himself of no reputation...”*
 2. Are you willing to sacrifice for others? (2 Cor. 8.5)
- D. Letting God lift us up will help us be humble.
 1. **PHILIPPIANS 2.9-11:** *“God highly exalted Him...”*
 2. God will lift up the humble. (James 4.10)

CONCLUSION: God gives grace to the humble (1 Pet. 5.6).

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“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”
-Mark 16.15

November 16, 2025

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

How to Foster Church Growth

In the first century, the church was growing exponentially. Even under harsh conditions surrounded by hostility, the lost were constantly being converted to Christ (1 Thess. 1.6).

Today, some churches are thriving. They are filled with enthusiastic members who are excited to serve and new disciples are added to the church on a regular basis. There are some churches which are struggling. There have not been any new conversions for years, and the numbers are slowly declining. How can a local congregation foster growth in the church? The Bible has the answer. In Ephesians 4.16, the Holy Spirit writes about that which *“causes growth of the body.”* When you study these verses, you will find what the church needs to be and to do to foster church growth.

A growing church has an active and involved leadership. The context begins in verse 11 where it mentions apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. These individuals have been placed into the church for the purpose of providing the brethren with the spiritual tools they need to grow. Preachers, elders, and teachers are to be *“speaking the truth in love”* (Eph. 4.15). In doing so, they will protect the brethren from being *“tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine”* (Eph. 4.14).

WHO IS JESUS?

MATTHEW 16:13

INTRODUCTION:

1. What does the world say about Jesus? (Matt. 16.13,14)
 - a) Some believe that Jesus is a myth. (1 John 1.1)
 - b) Some believe that Jesus is a good man. (Matt. 26.63,64)
 - c) Some believe that Jesus is political activist. (Matt. 22.21)
2. **MATTHEW 16.15:** *"He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?'"* (cf. John 1.41,42; Acts 2.36).
3. If someone asked you to describe Jesus, how would you answer?

I. JESUS IS OUR SAVIOR

- A. **HEBREWS 2.10:** *"the captain of their salvation"*
 1. Captain (archegon): The highest ranking leader.
 2. Jesus is the highest ranking authority as it relates to our salvation. (Matt. 29.18)
- B. **HEBREWS 5.9:** *"And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation..."*
 1. Author (aitios): The cause. Jesus is the reason for our salvation. (Heb. 9.12; Rom. 5.1; Gal. 3.27; Rom. 1.16)
 2. **HEBREWS 5.9:** *"...to all who obey Him"* (Rom. 6.17)
- C. **HEBREWS 8.1,2:** *"Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest..."*
 1. The high priest offers sacrifices for sins. (Heb. 5.3)
 2. **HEBREWS 5.6:** *"So also Christ..."* (Heb. 5.9)
 3. Jesus offered His blood as High Priest. (Heb. 9.11,12)

II. WE ARE TO BE LIKE JESUS

- A. We help people get right with God by sharing the gospel.
 1. **ROMANS 10.13,14:** *"And how shall they hear without a preacher."* Kerusso: To be a herald.
 2. **MATTHEW 28.19:** Whenever and wherever we go, we are to make disciples.
- B. We help people get right with God by showing Jesus to the world through our example.
 1. **1 TIMOTHY 4.16:** By continuing in the doctrine, we will save ourselves and others.
 2. **ROMANS 10.1:** What do you desire for others?

CONCLUSION: Others can know Jesus by our lives.

MAKING GOOD CHOICES

It is true that *"time and chance happen to us all"* (Ecc. 9.11). Sometimes our circumstances are a product of chance. However, cumulatively, our position in life is the result of all the decisions that we have made in the past. This makes the skill of good decision making essential. How does one know the right choices to make? Consider these three suggestions taken from Psalm One.

We can make right choices by listening to the right advice. **PSALM 1.1:** *"Blessed are those who walk not in the counsel of the ungodly."* The word "counsel" is a reference to advise that is given when you need help with trouble or handling a difficult situation. The word "ungodly" refers to someone who does not give any thought to God (Ps. 10.4). You are going to face situations where a decision needs to be made. Where are going to go to get advice to make the right decision? This verse tells us that if you need help with a difficulty, don't seek help from someone who is has no interest in God. Seek advice from the right source.

We can make right choices by keeping company with the right people. **PSALM 1.1:** *"...nor stands in the path of sinners."* The word translated as "stands" carries the idea of lingering. This is someone who is lingering in the company of those who break the laws of God (1 John 3.4). Peter made a bad choice to deny the Lord. In that context, there were people in the courtyard. The text implies that these were people opposed to Jesus. Just before Peter denied Jesus, we are told that Peter *"sat among them"* (Luke 22.55). If you want to make good decisions, make sure you are hanging around with the right kind of people (1 Cor. 15.33).

We can make right choices by having the right kind of friends. **PSALM 1.1:** *"...nor sits in the seat of the scornful."* The word translated as "sits" describes someone who is in a relationship. This is someone who is a friend with the scornful. What kind of friends do you have? What do they like to do? What kind of language do they use? Chances are, whatever your friends do, you will be influenced to do the same with them. If you want to make good decisions, choose your friends wisely (Prov. 22.24).

The place you are right now is not because of how you were raised or genetic makeup. It is because of the choices you made. This encourages us to make good choices. CLP