

Title: Growing in Christ: Beyond Easy Believism

Sermon Summary: This sermon challenges believers to move beyond a superficial understanding of salvation and embrace a deeper, more committed relationship with Christ. The pastor emphasizes the importance of continual growth in faith, active discipleship, and the need for Christians to be taught and to teach others. He warns against complacency and encourages a life of obedience and spiritual development that goes beyond mere acceptance of basic gospel truths.

Key Points:

- Salvation is more than just an initial decision; it involves ongoing growth and commitment
- Christians should seek to imitate Christ and teach others, not just passively receive
- The importance of studying the whole Bible, not just select verses
- The need for accountability and small group fellowship

- Worship as a means of drawing closer to God and recognizing our own shortcomings
- The reality of judgment for believers and the importance of living to please God

Scripture Reference:

- 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 (The essence of the Gospel)
- 2 Corinthians 5:1-11 (Our heavenly dwelling and the judgment seat of Christ)

Stories:

- The pastor's experience at Bible college and how it broadened his understanding of worship
- Anecdote about a child repeating a swear word, illustrating how we learn by imitation
- The story of Charlie Kirk's impact and the growth of Turning Point USA chapters after his death
- Personal reflection on the pastor's desire to be positioned smiling in his coffin to "put the fun back in funeral"