

**Accelerated Growth**  
**II Peter 3:18**

**I. Salvation      Romans 10:9**

A. More than having the soul saved    Heb. 6:9

Salvation does more than help us in sweet by and by but also is of great benefit to us in the nasty now and now. How can I find out what the benefits are and how they can help me? This lesson discusses how to accelerate the process.

**II. Church      Hebrews 10:25**

A. You need it for growth, help, fellowship, worship, service.

B. Which kind?

It is clear that we should meet together with other believers, people with like challenges, struggles, values and evolving world view. The question is how to choose an assembly that will accomplish the intended purpose; personal and spiritual growth. The nature of religion is that it always evolves beyond truth. By taking a speck of truth and wrapping it with a pound of bologna (religious rules and regulations) you create a religion. My preference is to find a place where the Word of God is exalted and the least amount of bologna is displayed.

**III. Read the Bible      I Peter 2:2**

A. The issues of life come from the Bible: relationships, priorities, doctrine, rebukes, corrections, instruction, weighing eternity, perspectives, and benefits.    II Tim. 3:16

This is the only way that we can grow spiritually. This is how we gain a Biblical world view. This is how we understand the ways and interests of God. II Tim. 3:16 tells us the four ways that God improves us. Without God's Word you will go nowhere spiritually.

**IV. Baptism      Matthew 28:19-20**

A. Pictures your commitment      Rom. 6:1-6

B. They all gladly obeyed; at Pentecost Acts 2:41, Philip Acts 8:36, Paul 9:18, Cornelius Acts 10:47-48, Jailer Acts 16:30-34.

Every person that accepted Jesus as the Messiah in scripture was baptized, with one exception, the thief on the cross. It does not save you but demonstrates a spirit of obedience which is vital to one's relationship with God. Baptism (immerse) always follows salvation and is always by immersion. Infant baptism is not taught in scripture. Since baptism demonstrates an inner faith, how can it be administered to babies?

**V. Prayer    Jer. 33:3, Eph. 3:20, James 4:2**

We cannot even imagine how God might answer prayers. Ask Him without advising Him. He may take you the long way around to get you where you need to be.

A. Is not a ritual

No prayer book is necessary. A simple request from the heart will suffice.

B. Opportunity for help

God wants to be an integral part of our lives. Don't live beneath your privileges, PRAY.

C. House sale, Bob & Coleen, what to do?

This is a place to speak about some personal prayers answered or clear answers from others testimonies. The issues mentioned about are personal to me and have helped my faith to grow. Both are very clear answers to prayer, not simply convergences of circumstances.

## **VI. Family**

A. God wants your family in heaven with you. Acts 16:31

If a relationship with God is good for you, it must be good for your family. Challenge your class to let you go to their homes and share these lessons with your family.

## **VII. Build a relationship with God**

A. He wants it intimate John 17:1-3, Romans 8:14-16.

“That they may know you and Jesus” it's more than to know *about*, but knowing Him. It can only be accomplished by becoming intimate in studying, prayer, reflecting, and yielding to the will and purposes of God. The hardest word in the Bible is the word “yield.” Learn His ways, His heart, and His thoughts. Enter His spiritual world, accept no less.

## **VIII. Mentor**

A. Pastor, friends, Bible teacher. Eph. 4:11-12

The spiritual life is designed to be walked with a mentor. It is difficult to walk it alone. God has given some people an insatiable hunger to know the Word and an interest in teaching others. Those people are mentors. The teachers of these lessons as well as the host of the class are by necessity mentors. Experience is needed not only in the Word but the walk.

**Where To From Here?**  
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