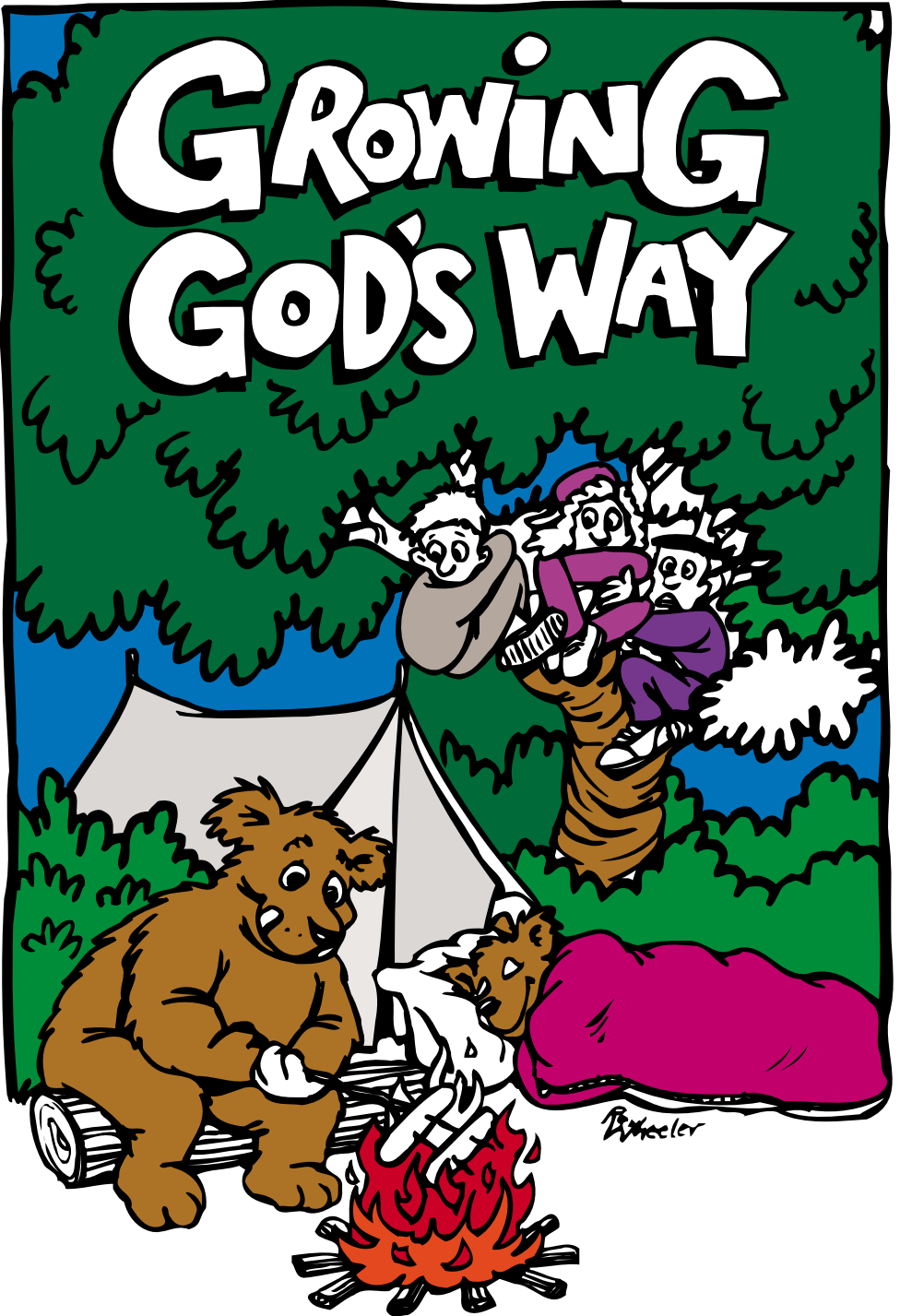
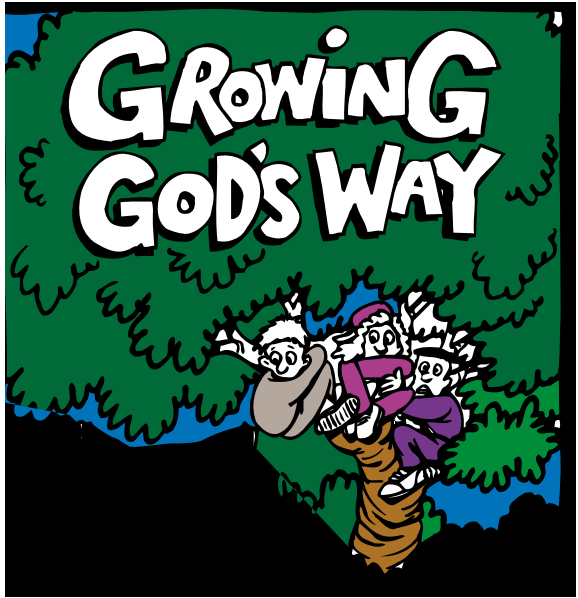


GROWING GOD'S WAY



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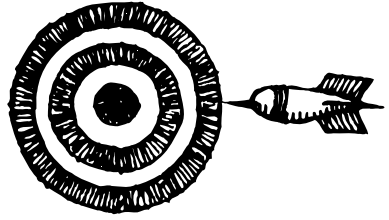
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Bible Skill Pointers



The Bible is full of promises! They are just waiting for you to find them. But you may miss them if you are not careful. Finding God's promises is a skill. Practice can help you become a better Bible promise finder. Here are some ideas to help you get started.



1. **PRAY.** God promised to help you understand His Word (John 16:13). Begin by asking for His help.



2. **OBSERVE.** That means to look very closely at what the Bible says. It helps to read a verse more than once.



3. **INTERPRET.** Once you have discovered what the Bible says, try to figure out what it means. Is there a promise, warning, command, or story in these verses? Remember, God will help you understand.



4. **APPLY.** What is the Bible telling *you* to *do*? Ask yourself how you can use these verses in your life.



5. **PRAY AGAIN.** Thank God for His help as you studied His Word. Ask Him to help you do what the Bible says.



6. **OBEY.** Watch for times to do what God's word says, then *do it*.

DAY

1

Ready, Set, Grow!

What God Says

Luke 2:42-45, 49-52

42 When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom.

43 After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it.

44 Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends.

45 When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.

49 “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?”

50 But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart.

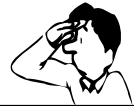
52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.



Go on a camp scavenger hunt. See how many things you can find that grow. See how many things you can find that do not grow. List each one under the proper heading below.



Things That Grow



Things That Do Not Grow



Designed to Grow

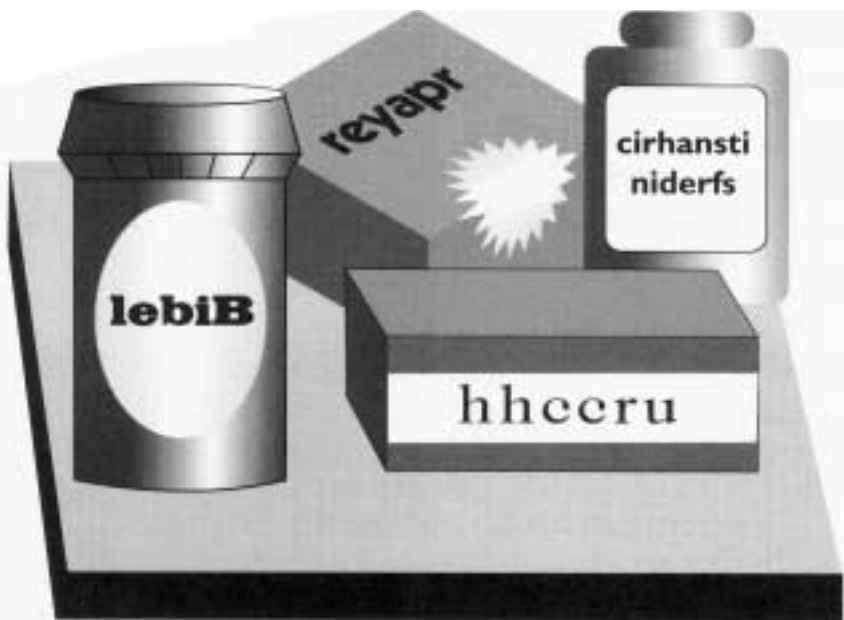
God made you so that you would grow. There are many ways you can grow. Read Luke 2:52 to find four ways Jesus grew. Write them in the spaces below. Jesus grew:

- ◇ 1. in _____ (knowledge)
- ◇ 2. and _____ (size)
- ◇ 3. and in _____ with _____
- ◇ 4. and _____

Put a check in the box by each way you can grow like Jesus did.

Things That Help You Grow

Below are some things that will help you grow in favor with God. Unscramble the words on the labels of the “Spiritual Vitamins” to discover what they are.



My Time with God's Word

Grow with God every day
by reading His Word.

1 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. 2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good (*1 Peter 2:1-3*).

First Peter 2:1 lists some things that can stop you from growing. Write them in the blanks. Read what they mean.

1. _____ means wanting something bad to happen to someone.
2. _____ means saying something that is not true.
3. _____ means acting like you love and obey God when you really don't.

4. _____ means wishing you had something someone else has so much that you don't like the person because he or she has it.
5. _____ means saying something about someone that isn't true.

First Peter 2:2 says "spiritual milk" will help you grow up in your salvation. That means to grow in favor with God. What do you think spiritual milk is? Write your answer here, then ask your counselor if you were right.



Quiz Fun ?

Luke 2:42-52

1. According to Luke, what did Jesus do at age 12?
 1. He went to the feast.
 2. He stayed in Jerusalem without His parents' permission.
 3. He went to the Temple to listen to the teachers and ask them questions.
 4. All of these.
2. Why did Jesus' parents begin the journey without knowing for sure that Jesus was with the group?
 1. They thought He was with the group (company) of people who were traveling together.
 2. Jews considered a boy at age 12 old enough to begin living on his own.
 3. They thought Jesus was with His grandfather.
 4. Jesus had promised to catch up with them the next day.
3. When Jesus' parents found Him, where did Jesus tell His parents He had to be?
 1. In Jerusalem
 2. Learning from the teachers and scribes
 3. In His Father's house
 4. All of these
4. What did Jesus do when His parents did not understand what He was saying to them?
 1. He became angry
 2. He said they were not His real parents.
 3. He went with them to Nazareth and was obedient.
 4. He asked the teachers in the Temple to talk with His parents.
5. How does Luke say that Jesus grew?
 1. In wisdom and stature
 2. In favor with God
 3. In favor with men
 4. All of these

DAY

2

My Bible Helps Me Grow

What God Says

2 Timothy 3:14-17

14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it,

15 and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Solve the Mystery Riddles



Riddle No. 1

I'm important to you—you can't live without me.

I may grow in a field or swim in the sea.

I may graze in a pasture or hang in a tree.

I'm something you'll want every day, every night.

You'll grow big and strong if you balance me right.

Answer: _ _ _ _

Riddle No. 2

You need me as well; I've got stories to tell.
I can show you the way to live right and well.
Some people say I'm only a book.
But I'll teach you God's secrets if you'll give me a look.

Answer: _ _ _ _ _

How Does the Bible Help You Grow?

How does the Bible help you grow? Second Timothy 3:16 tells four ways. Find each word and circle it in the word search puzzle. Then fill in the blanks to complete the sentences.

S R P E J C C L D A O
T E A C H I N G Q M Q
B B E O E C S I C L D
D U T R Z O Y H A C B
E K X R D H S E F T Z
T I Z E A H T R I E H
C N O C S D U O D C Z
P G O T R A I N I N G
R A D I R G O C I R R
R L C N T F E R M O O
O M M G A P O L E T W

1. T _ _ _ _ _ : Helping you learn about God.
2. R _ _ _ _ _ : Telling you that what you have done displeases God and saying, "Never do it again."
3. C _ _ _ _ _ : Showing you how to do something right after you have done it wrong.
4. T _ _ _ _ _ : Guides you to develop habits that help you become a stronger Christian.



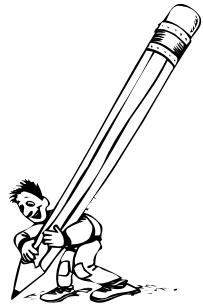
My Time with God's Word

Grow with God every day
by reading His Word.

Read Psalm 1 to find out what people who read and study the Bible are like. Underline the answer in the verses below.
How does reading and studying the Bible help people today?

1 Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. **2** But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. **3** He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.

**How does reading and studying the Bible help people today?
Write your answer below.**





Quiz Fun ?

2 Timothy 3:14-17

1. Which of the following did Paul write to Timothy?

1. Continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of.
2. Listen and follow the new ideas the world is teaching.
3. Remember, question everything you have learned.
4. Those who are called Christians are deceiving you.

2. According to 2 Timothy, when did Timothy begin learning the holy Scriptures?

1. When he was an adult.
2. When he was a teen.
3. When he was a child.
4. When he was an infant.

3. What does Paul say the Scriptures can do?

1. Confuse you.
2. Make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

3. Make you wise in the ways of the world.

4. Lead you to great wealth.

4. According to Paul, all Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for which of the following?

1. Teaching
2. Rebuking
3. Correcting and training in righteousness
4. All of these

5. Why is the Scripture used for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness?

1. To help people discover how bad they are.
2. So that Satan cannot trick you.
3. So that the man of God may be equipped for every good work.
4. To help other Christians judge you.

DAY

3

Prayer Helps Me Grow

What God Says

Matthew 6:9-13

The Lord's Prayer

9 This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,



10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

11 Give us today our daily bread.

12 Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

Praying Jesus' Way

Read Matthew 6:9-13. This is called the Lord's Prayer. Jesus told us to pray this way. Answer the questions below to discover the important parts of this famous pattern for prayer.

1. To whom did Jesus say we should pray?



2. Jesus showed His disciples to begin their prayers with praise. Praise is telling God you think He is great. It also means that you love Him and are willing to obey Him.

Write your praise to God.



3. Jesus showed us that God is interested in what we need. We can ask Him to help us. Write some ways you can ask God to help you.

When you have finished asking, don't forget to say,

Thank You!

God of the Universe or Great Gift-Giving Machine?

Some people have confused God with a “Great Gift-Giving Machine.” Read the descriptions below. Draw a line to the word God from each phrase that tells about God. Draw a line to the “Great Gift-Giving Machine” from each one that describes it.

1. Loves and cares for us.

G

2. Gives you whatever you ask for whenever you ask for it.

O

3. Listens to your requests and decides what is best for you.

D

4. Sometimes doesn't give gifts because it breaks down or needs oil.

5. Is our servant and does whatever we want.

6. Is in charge of the whole world.

7. May answer your prayers with yes, no, or wait—whichever is best for you.

8. Will hear you wherever and whenever you pray.

9. Is a real, living Person.

10. Was made up, just for fun.





My Time with God's Word

Grow with God every day
by reading His Word.

Colossians 4:2 has some good advice for people who are growing God's way. What does this verse tell us?

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful" (Colossians 4:2).

God wants us to _____ each day.



Quiz Fun ?

Matthew 6:9-13

1. What is the Bible reference for the Lord's Prayer?
 1. Matthew 6:9-13
 2. Matthew 5:3-12
 3. 2 Timothy 3:14-17
 4. Matthew 6:10-12
2. Whose name is holy (hallowed)?
 1. Our Father's in heaven
 2. The disciples'
 3. Paul's
 4. John the Baptist's
3. Whose will is to be done on earth as in heaven?
 1. Jesus'
 2. The Holy Spirit's
 3. Our Father's (God's)
 4. The angels'
4. In the Lord's Prayer, what do we ask our Heavenly Father to forgive?
 1. Those who have sinned against us
 2. Our anger
 3. Our debts in the same way we forgive our debtors
 4. Our sin
5. In the Lord's Prayer, what do we ask our Heavenly Father to do for us?
 1. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
 2. Not to lead us into temptation.
 3. To deliver us from the evil one.
 4. All of these.

DAY 4

What God Says

Ephesians 4:11-15

11 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,



12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

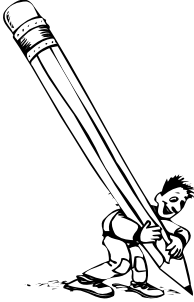
14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming.

15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

**My Church Helps Me
Grow**

My Goal for Growing

Ephesians 4:12 says service is one goal for the person who wants to Grow God's Way. How can you serve God? Write or draw your answer here:



My Time with God's Word

**Grow with God every day
by reading His Word.**

A Reason to Rejoice

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD'" (Psalm 122:1).

David said these words many, many years ago. You can feel the same way. Complete the sentence below to tell why you are glad you can go to church.

I am glad I can go to church because . . .



Quiz FUN ?

Ephesians 4:11-15

1. Who calls “some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers”?

1. He (Christ)
2. The general superintendents
3. Paul
4. The angels

2. Why are people called to be apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers?

1. To prepare God's people for works of service
2. To build up the Body of Christ until we reach unity in the knowledge of the Son of God
3. To become mature and attain the whole measure of the fullness of Christ
4. All of these

3. Who does Paul say is “tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching

and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming”?

1. Those who are not Christians
2. Infants (baby Christians)
3. Those who are mature Christians
4. All of these

4. How are we to speak the truth?

1. Boldly
2. With force
3. In love
4. With no concern for the other person's feelings

5. When Paul talked about the Body of Christ, who did Paul say is the head?

1. The local pastor and the church board
2. The prophets, teachers, evangelists, apostles
3. The Christian who is the most mature
4. Christ

Autographs

