



# Measuring Spiritual Growth

## (2 Thessalonians 1:3)

**Introduction:** Measuring. We love it when we are kids as we're getting taller and taller. The marks on the door facing are exciting as they go up and up. It's exciting when people say, "You're getting taller than your mom." That may not be very tall but, while you're growing it's thrilling to hear. Have we ever thought about measuring our spiritual growth?

### I. Stop \_\_\_\_\_

- A) Why do we stop growing?
- B) We stop \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 13:15)
- C) We stop \_\_\_\_\_ (Colossians 3:23)
- D) We stop \_\_\_\_\_ in other ways (Hebrews 5:11-14)

### II. Stop \_\_\_\_\_

- A) When we stop growing what do we do?
- B) Why?
  - 1. Challenging
  - 2. How do we normally measure?
  - 3. Quantitative or Qualitative—tough to measure.
- C) It's the \_\_\_\_\_ solution
  - 1. I don't feel as bad and I don't notice the lack of growth as much.
  - 2. Am I wise enough to keep measuring & growing (Proverbs 9:9-10)
- D) We start \_\_\_\_\_, rather than growing (2 Corinthians 10:12; Luke 18:9-14)
  - 1. Commend ourselves (v. 9)
  - 2. Arrogance (v. 9)
  - 3. Identify failings of others (v. 11)
  - 4. Seek to convince God (v. 12)
  - 5. Humility (v. 13)

### III. Stop \_\_\_\_\_

- A) "I can't grow..."
- B) I deny the effectiveness of long term) growth (Matthew 13:31-33)
- C) Do one thing today that will add to your growth.
  - 1. Do it again tomorrow, etc., etc.
  - 2. Seeds which are well planted and cultivated grow (Mark 4:3-9)
- D) Don't grow weary (Galatians 6:9)

### IV. What To \_\_\_\_\_?

- A) Keep \_\_\_\_\_!
- B) Grow up with a \_\_\_\_\_ of believers (Ephesians 4:15-16)
- C) Start \_\_\_\_\_ in your growth potential again!
- D) Grow your faith like a mustard seed.
  - 1. Do what you think is impossible now (Matthew 17:19-20)
  - 2. Have faith to forgive (Luke 17:5-6)
  - 3. Keep building on your faith (2 Peter 1:5-11)

### Conclusion:

*"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."* (2 Pet. 3:18)

*"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."*

**(1 Corinthians 15:57-58)**

