



I. INTRO / REVIEW

A. Fresh Faith

John 15:8 (NLT) “When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.”

John 15:4–5 (NLT) “Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.”

B. Roots always come first

Isaiah 37:31 (NKJV) And the remnant who have escaped of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

- If roots are where fruit begins, and fruit is what Glorifies God, growth is the process that connects the two

II. THE GROWING SEASON

A. Growth takes patience

- Fruit that isn't supported by growth doesn't last

B. Baby steps

Psalms 37:23 (TLB) The steps of good men are directed by the Lord. He delights in each step they take.

C. The messy middle

Galatians 6:9 (TLB) And let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up.

- Growing season is where planted faith becomes mature faith



III. BEING PLANTED MATTERS

A. What you're planted "IN" matters

Colossians 2:6-7 (NLT) And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

- A life rooted in Christ should begin to look like Christ

B. Where you're planted matters

Psalms 92:12-14 (NKJV) The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord Shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing

- When individuals grow, the church grows, and when the church grows, the Kingdom advances

C. Discipleship is a choice, but formation is a process

- Discipleship is not a class we join - It's a journey we commit to
- You cannot be a disciple without "one another"

IV. JOY IS IN A GROWING SEASON

A. Personal growth and church growth look a lot alike

- Growth is inconvenient
- Growth requires faith
- Growth is expensive
- Investing before seeing results

B. The Five Stones give us direction for this season:

- **Digital Outreach**
- **Second Mile Internships**
- **BLESS Every Home**
- **Raise a million**
- **Increased Prayer**

C. We love harvest. But heaven celebrates growth, so don't despise the middle

- If God delights in steps – what's your next step?
- God delights in steps, He honors faithfulness, works through consistency

2 Peter 3:18 (NLT) Rather, you must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. All glory to him, both now and forever! Amen.