

# *Life's Healing Choices: The Beatitudes* *- Part 7*

## THE GROWTH CHOICE

May 23, 2010

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**The Growth Choice:** I reserve a daily time with God for Bible reading, self-examination, and prayer in order to know God and his will for my life and to gain the power to follow his will.

“Continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.” *2 Peter 3:18 TEV*

### HOW TO CONTINUE GROWING

#### 1. Fix a Daily Time with God

“And now, dear children, continue to live in fellowship with Christ...”  
*1 John 2:28 NLT*

“Everyone who lives in union with Christ does not continue to sin...”  
*1 John 3:6 TEV*

“Continue praying, keeping alert, and always thanking God.”  
*Colossians 4:2 NCV*

#### 2. Fill My Mind with Scripture

“The truly happy people are those who carefully study God's perfect law that makes people free, and they continue to study it. They do not forget what they hear, but they obey what God's teaching says.”  
*James 1:25 NCV*

“If you continue in my Word, then you are my disciples indeed; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” *John 8:31-32KJV*

#### 3. Focus on My Goal, Not My Habit

“I do not mean that I am already as God wants me to be. I have not yet reached that goal, but I continue trying to reach it and to make it mine. Christ wants me to do that, which is the reason he made me his.”  
*Philippians 3:12 NCV*

“No, I'm still not all I should be, but I am focusing all my energies on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us up to heaven.” *Philippians 3:13-14 NLT*

#### 4. Face and Forsake My Failures Quickly

“Let us examine our ways and test them, and return to the Lord.”  
*Lamentations 3:40 NIV*

“If we examine ourselves, we will not be examined by God and judged in this way.” *1 Corinthians 11:31 NLT*

#### 5. Flee Temptation, but Don't Fear It

“Be alert. Continue strong in the faith. Have courage, and be strong.”  
*1 Corinthians 16:13 NCV*

“Do not be fooled. Bad companions ruin good character.”  
*1 Corinthians 15:33 TEV*

#### 6. Form an Ongoing Support Group

“... We are confident that God will continue to rescue us, since you are also joining to help us when you pray for us.” *2 Corinthians 1:10 GW*

“We should not stop gathering together with other believers, as some of you are doing. Instead, we must continue to encourage each other...”  
*Hebrews 10:25 GW*

#### 7. Follow Christ to the Finish Line

“I am sure that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on that day when Christ Jesus comes back again.” *Philippians 1:6 NLT*