



# The Word at Work

## Growing up through knowing God better

### Reading the Word

**Key Scriptures:** various

### **Key Points:**

*...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.*

**Ephesians 4:13 (NIV)**

Jesus gifts of leaders to the church are given that we can come to maturity

- Jesus is the measure of our maturity
- That maturity is related to our knowledge of Jesus

Maturity matters because:

1. The world is meant to see what Jesus is like by looking at the church.
2. The church can't grow if its crèche is full up with Christians who should have grown up!
3. We will get blown about by every wind of teaching if we are not mature (Eph.4:14-15)
4. Jesus isn't coming back until his bride has made herself ready

*Then the way you live will always honour and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better.*

**Colossians 1:10 (NLT)**

We grow up towards maturity as we get to know God better

We grow through the grace and knowledge of Jesus (see 2 Peter 1:2; 3:18)

### 2 Peter 1:2-9

- We experience grace and peace through the knowledge of God (v.2)
- We experience new birth, a new nature and power for living through the knowledge of God (vv.3-4)
- On the basis of these truths we can make every effort to grow in Christ-like character qualities
- This ensures that our knowledge of God is not immature but is being productive and effective:

*The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**2 Peter 1:8 (NLT)**

How do we grow in the knowledge of God?

1. Spend time with God throughout the day
2. Live pure lives that bless him and do not grieve his Spirit
3. Giving time to understand his Word (Proverbs 2:1-5)

### Doing the Word

#### **To Discuss:**

1. Why do you think that getting to know God better is a key to growing up spiritually?
2. Talk about some of the ways we can practically apply the suggestions that are given at the end for growing in the knowledge of God.

#### **To Do:**

1. Make time this week to spend reading the Bible and making a few notes on the things that God speaks to you about.

*Trevor Lloyd 3rd August 2008*