**Last Year on Earth Part 3 – Spiritual Growth**

**GOALS & GUIDELINES:**  
**ICEBREAKER:  Name someone who always has great advice…**  
**AGREEMENT PRAYER**  
**PRAISE**   
**EDIFY:**

The Mayan Calendar predicts we all have 330 days left. We aren’t here to argue if the Mayan prediction is correct or incorrect. We want to take this opportunity to contemplate living our last year on earth.

Last week we decided every moment is important for building strong relationships. We are done taking our relationships for granted… Tonight we are going to talking about growing in relationship with God… How would you want to live out your walk with God if you knew this was the last year of your life?

**Q-** Is Spiritual Growth important? Why?

**Q-** How does someone grow spiritually?

**Q-** Tell us about a moment where you had a spiritual breakthrough.

The birth of the church takes place in Acts 2 when the Holy Spirit was poured out. This was a moment of Spiritual Birth. Being Born Again is a powerful spiritual experience. As important as that Day of Pentecost is we can’t look past what those new believers did the next day…

**Q-** Following the Day of Pentecost what did the new believers fill their days with?

We put a lot of attention on powerful spiritual breakthrough moments. Not saying these moments are unimportant, they actually are… but not every moment is a mountain top moment. If we only put importance on those powerful spiritual moments then we would be doing a dis-service to everyday. EVERYDAY is important for your spiritual growth not just the moments you feel and see God’s presence.

The new believers in Acts 2 treated every day like it was important. They were devoted to teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer DAILY! We aren’t denying the power of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit – we are declaring the power of growing daily with God.

**Q-** Give us a personal testimony about your spiritual growth. Was there a time you felt like you really grew…?

We are really missing out if we think the only time to grow in God is at Sunday service or midweek small group. We are missing out on the everyday growth that we can experience. Not only will this everyday relationship with God change us… it will change our world. What started with 120 people in Acts 2 swept across the entire world as they lived out their faith day by day.

**Q-** What is Hebrews 5:12-14 telling us?

The writer of Hebrews has some strong words for us. In short – Grow Up! Let’s own that. This Connect Group needs to grow up. This group needs people to grow up into leaders. One day soon we will need someone in this Group to be leading their own group. Will you still be taking babies milk or will you be able to grow into that leader? Ministry spends a lot of its energy trying to get people who should be attending church and Connect Group to show up… wouldn’t it be great if those people would Grow Up and Show Up… We want you to Grow. We don’t just want you to attend we want you to get your friends saved, we want you to become great in God’s Kingdom!

The growth we are talking about is not a single moment – but an everyday effort.

**Internal Q-** Are we actually growing spiritually? What will we change to bring growth. **<Pray>**

**Vision: Own Hebrews 5:12-14 this week. Treat every day like it is important for spiritual growth.**

Gospel of Love - Invitation Cards!!! We need to be MORE active on Facebook.

Goals and Guidelines

1. Grow in relationship with each other
2. Grow in relationship with God
3. Grow in number and multiply

This is a non-denominational meeting where everyone's thoughts, ideas, and opinions are to be respected. Everyone is welcome and we encourage all to share their feelings.  
  
We will not argue or debate!

We place God's Word as the highest authority.  
  
We all share equally in the ownership of this Connect Group*,* therefore we will all participate in hosting meetings from house to house on a weekly basis.  
  
We will be committed to attendance and arriving on time.

When sharing, we follow 3 simple rules...  
Stay on subject  
Keep it short  
Keep all comments appropriate.

We will build confidence and trust with each other and become transparent.  
  
What is said in here stays in here. No gossip!

Last but not least… We will invite others to our Connect Group!

**John 4:13-17 (NKJV)** What is your life? You are a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

**Acts 2:41-47 (NIV)** They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. **43** Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.**44** All the believers were together and had everything in common. **45** They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

**46** Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, **47**praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

**Hebrews 5:12-14(NIV)** In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! **13** Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. **14** But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.