

Assurance of Spiritual Growth

1 John 2:12-14

Sometimes it is hard to measure growth. However, the Apostle John assures us that we are growing as God is working in us.

I. Spiritual _____ (13c)

When my eyes first looked to Christ, he was a very real Christ to me; and when my burden of sin rolled from off my back, it was a real pardon and a real release from sin to me; and when that day I said for the first time, "Jesus Christ is mine," it was a real possession of Christ to me. When I went up to the sanctuary in that early dawn of youthful piety, every song was really a psalm, and when there was a prayer, oh, how I followed every word! It was prayer indeed! And so was it, too, in silent quietude, when I drew near to God, it was no mockery, no routine, no matter of mere duty; it was a real talking with my Father who is in Heaven. - *Charles Spurgeon*

II. Spiritual _____ (13b, 14b)

III. Spiritual _____ (13a, 14b)

Spiritual growth . . .

1. Does not determine the believer's positional _____ before God.
2. Does not affect God's _____ for His children.
3. Is not measured by the amount of _____ that has passed since spiritual birth.
4. Is unrelated to the amount of theological _____ a believer might have.
5. Has nothing to do with outwardly successful _____ activity.
6. Is not the result of a _____ decision or experience.

- *Adapted from John MacArthur*