As we enter the moth of September, we turn our focus to the vital and ongoing process of growing in Christ. Spiritual growth is not a one-time event, but a lifelong journey that every believer is called to pursue. God’s desire is that we become more like His Son, reflecting His character, walking in His will, and bearing fruit that brings Him glory.

There are several reasons why continuing to grow in Christ is essential.

* First, spiritual growth enables us to reflect Christ more clearly.
* Second, spiritual growth strengthens our ability to withstand life’s trials. A spiritually mature believer is better equipped to endure hardship by drawing on God’s wisdom, peace, and strength.
* Finally, spiritual maturity positions us to fulfill God’s purpose for our lives. It equips us to discern His will, walk in obedience, and live with clarity and fruitfulness.

As we desire to grow, there are common barriers that can hinder our growth. One of the greatest is unrepented sin, which disrupts our fellowship with God and leads to stagnation. Another is spiritual complacency, when we become content with surface level faith and stop pursuing a deeper relationship with Christ. Additionally, the distractions of this world, such as busyness, disorganization, and materialism, can easily pull our attention away from God, leaving little room for spiritual development.

It is vital for every believer involved in ministry to continually grow spiritually, emotionally, and practically in the area God has assigned to them. Without growth, ministries can stagnate, vision can dim, and the impact of our service may be limited.

Therefore, let us remain steadfast and fervent in intercession, not only for those who already call Jesus Savior and Lord, that they may grow stronger in Him, but also for those who have not yet accepted His call to salvation. And let us be faithful in praying for ourselves, that we may daily be conformed to the image of Christ, growing in maturity and bringing glory to God.

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| **Suggested Prayer Points**  *These are just suggestions. As you spend time with God and inquire of Him how to address your prayers this month, feel free to direct your points as the Holy Spirit leads, and to use scriptures of your choosing.* |
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| **Prayer Point: Pray that we will have a heart that desires “Growth in Christ”.**  *Scriptures*:  Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV) – "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."  Psalm 42:1-2 (NIV) – "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God."  Prayer Starter:  Lord, give me a heart that longs to grow in You. Let me not settle for comfort or familiarity, but stir within me a hunger to know You more deeply and walk more closely with You every day. |
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| **Prayer Point : Let us pray for the strength to say "No" to things that hinders our growth**  *Scriptures:*  Titus 2:11-12 (NIV) – "For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age."  James 4:7 (NIV) – "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."  Starter Prayer:  Father, grant me the strength and discernment to say "No" to anything that pulls me away from You. Help me reject sin, distractions, and unhealthy influences so that I may walk in obedience and truth. |
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| **Prayer Point:  God desires for us to grow into spiritual maturity so that we may bear lasting fruit that brings Him glory.**  True maturity is reflected not only in what we believe but also in how we live—walking in His will, demonstrating His character, and producing fruit that testifies of His Kingdom.  *Scriptures:*   * **John 15:8** – *“Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.”* * **Colossians 1:10** – *“That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God.”*   **Prayer Starter**  Father, help me to grow in maturity so that my life may bear fruit that glorifies You. Teach me to walk in Your ways, to be steadfast in faith, and to produce fruit that reflects Christ’s character and draws others to You. |
| **Prayer Point: We pray for the boldness and the maturity to make difficult but God-Honoring choices.**  *Scriptures:*  Joshua 24:15 (NIV) – "But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."  Luke 9:23 (NIV) – "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."  Starter Prayer:  Lord, help me to be courageous when I face tough decisions. Even when it's uncomfortable, give me the boldness to choose Your will above all else, knowing that true life is found in following You. |
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| **Prayer Point:  Pray that we grow in maturity, becoming more like Christ by reflecting His character, walking in His will, and bearing fruit that glorifies God.**  **Brief Explanation:** God’s desire is not just that we believe in Christ, but that we mature to reflect Him in every area of life. Spiritual maturity is shown in character transformation, obedience to His will, and fruitfulness that points others to Him.  *Scriptures:*   * *Romans 8:29 – “For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”* * **John 15:8** – *“Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.”*   **Prayer Starter:**  “Lord, help me grow in maturity so that my life reflects the character of Jesus, walks in Your will, and bears fruit that glorifies Your name…” |
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| **Prayer Point:  We want to pray for those who desire and need to grow in hearing and recognizing the voice of the Lord.**  Brief Description:  God speaks to His children in many ways—through His Word, the Holy Spirit, circumstances, and the counsel of godly people. Growing in this area means learning to discern His voice clearly, obey His guidance, and respond in faith.  *Scriptures:*  John 10:27 – “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”  Isaiah 30:21 – “And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.”  Prayer Starter:  “Lord, open my ears and my heart to hear Your voice clearly. Teach me to recognize Your guidance and follow it without hesitation…” |
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| **Prayer Point:  Many of us recognize God as our Father and Jesus as our Savior, but we often know little about the Holy Spirit. Pray that more of us will come to develop a true relationship with the Holy Spirit. As we mature as obedient sons and daughters, may we cultivate an intimate fellowship with God the Holy Spirit, allowing Him to guide, teach, and empower us daily.**  *Scriptures:*   * John 14:26 – *“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”* * Romans 8:14 – *“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.”*   Prayer Starter  Heavenly Father, thank You for sending us the Holy Spirit, our Comforter and Teacher. Help us to recognize His presence and cultivate a deeper relationship with Him. May we grow in obedience and maturity as sons and daughters, learning to be led by His voice in every area of our lives. |
| **Prayer Point:  Pray that we learn to lead as servants, showing humility toward both brethren and even enemies, following the example of Jesus.**  **Brief Explanation:**  True leadership in Christ is not about position or power but about humility and service. Jesus, the Lord of all, demonstrated this when He washed the feet of His disciples (John 13:14–15), teaching us that leadership means serving others—whether friends, family, or even those who oppose us.  *Scripture:*   * **John 13:14–15** – *“If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.”*   **Prayer Starter:**  “Lord, teach me to lead with humility and a servant’s heart, following Your example of love and service—even to those who may not treat me the same…” |
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| **Prayer Point: Pray for protection from spiritual complacency**  *Scriptures:*  Revelation 3:15-16 (NIV) – "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot... So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth."  Galatians 6:9 (NIV) – "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."  Starter Prayer:  Father, keep me from growing spiritually cold or passive. Awaken my spirit, refresh my zeal, and keep my faith alive and active. Let me never grow weary of pursuing You. |
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| **Prayer Point: Pray that we are willingness to be pruned and refined**  *Scriptures:*  John 15:2 (NIV) – "He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit... every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful."  Hebrews 12:11 (NIV) – "No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it."  Starter Prayer:  Lord, I welcome Your pruning in my life. Even when it’s painful, I trust that You are shaping me for greater fruitfulness. Refine my character and remove what does not honor You. |
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| **Prayer Point:  Pray that we can be an authentic example to others**  1 Timothy 4:12 – “Be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.” *Scripture:*  Matthew 5:16 – “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”  Prayer Starter:  Lord, let my life reflect Your Word. May my actions, speech, and conduct be a testimony of Your grace to those I lead and serve… |
| **Prayer Point: Pray that we grow to be able to understand and walk in our strength to withstand spiritual warfare and “win well!”**  *Scriptures:*  Ephesians 6:11 – “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”  2 Corinthians 10:4 – “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds.”  Prayer Starter:  Father, strengthen me to stand firm against every scheme of the enemy. Clothe me with Your armor, and teach my hands for war and my fingers for battle… |
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| **Prayer Point: Let’s pray for the ability to feed others spiritually**  *Scriptures:*  Jeremiah 3:15 – “And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.”  Colossians 3:16 – “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another.”  Prayer Starter:  Lord, fill me with Your Word and Spirit, that I may minister with wisdom and provide spiritual nourishment to those You have placed in my care… |
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| **Prayer Point:  Pray that as we grow in Christ, we guard against pride by remaining rooted in humility and Christlike character.**  Pray that we remember that spiritual growth is not measured by position, knowledge, or outward works, but by Christ being formed in us. May er remember that pride stunts growth, while humility allows us to receive correction.  *Scriptures:*  Colossians 2:6–7 – “As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.”  Philippians 2:3–5 – “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves… Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.”  Prayer Starter:  “Lord, as I grow in You, keep me rooted in humility. Let pride have no place in me, but may Christ be formed in my thoughts, words, and actions. |
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| **Prayer Point: Let us pray that we stay in prayer to gain intimacy with God through effective prayer. God desires prayer to be more than requests; it is fellowship with Him, where we grow in intimacy, discern His will, and receive His peace.**  *Scriptures:*  Jeremiah 33:3 – “Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.”  Philippians 4:6–7 – “Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”  Prayer Starter:  “Father, draw me closer to You in prayer. May I not just seek answers, but seek Your presence and walk in the peace and wisdom You give… |
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| **Prayer point:   Pray that we learn to Guard Our Hearts From Fear:**We must guard against fear because it is the opposite of faith. Fear prevents us from trusting God fully, hinders our prayers, and keeps us from walking in the authority and promises He has given us in Christ. Fear not only cripples spiritual growth but also steals peace and joy that come from abiding in God.  *Scriptures:*  2 Timothy 1:7 – “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”  Isaiah 41:10 – “Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee…”  Prayer Starter: “Father, help me reject fear and walk in the boldness of Your Spirit…”  Detriments of Allowin*g Fear:*   1. *Weakens Faith – Fear causes us to doubt God’s promises and focus on circumstances rather than His power. (Matthew 14:30-31 – Peter sank when he focused on the wind instead of Jesus.)* 2. *Opens the Door to Torment – Fear produces anxiety and bondage, robbing us of God’s peace. (1 John 4:18 – “Fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.”)* 3. *Paralyzes Obedience – Fear keeps us from stepping out in faith, taking risks for God, or fulfilling His assignments. (Numbers 13:31 – The Israelites feared the giants and missed the Promised Land.)*   *Limits Spiritual Growth  - - Instead of moving forward in Christ, fear holds us back in cycles of doubt, worry, and unbelief.* |
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| **Prayer Point #11: Pray to grow in prayer so that we can trust God to provide our needs, freeing us to focus on interceding effectively for the lost.**  *Scriptures:*  Matthew 6:31–33 – “Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”  Philippians 4:19 – “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”  Prayer Starter:  “Father, help me to trust You completely for all my needs, so that my heart can be fully devoted to praying for those who do not yet know You…” |
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| **Prayer Point # 12:  Pray to grow in understanding that God calls us to die to self—our selfish desires, pride, and sin**…….yet He does not call us to suppress the good He has placed within us. Instead, He invites us to use our God-given gifts, talents, and character for His glory and the benefit of others.  *Scriptures:*   * Galatians 2:20 – *“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me…”* * Romans 12:6 – *“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith.”*   Prayer Starter:  “Lord, help me surrender my selfish desires while embracing and using the good gifts and qualities You have placed within me for Your glory…” |
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| **Prayer Point: Praying for Healing from Immaturity and Hidden Wounds**  We sometimes mask our true feelings and struggles, appearing patient, kind, or gracious outwardly while unresolved wounds and immature patterns remain inside. God’s Spirit is able to heal, transform, and bring us to deeper spiritual and emotional maturity.  *Scriptures:*  Psalm 34:18 – “The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.”  Ephesians 4:22-24 – “Put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”  Prayer Starter:  “Father God, I acknowledge the areas of my life where I have hidden my true struggles and acted in immaturity. I ask that Your Spirit would heal the deep wounds within me, transform my heart, and renew my mind. Help me to grow in genuine spiritual and emotional maturity, reflecting Your love and truth in every area of my life…” |
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| **Prayer Point: *Pray that we become intentional to grow In our God-Given ministry assignments.*** It is vital for every believer involved in ministry to continually grow spiritually, emotionally, and practically in the area God has assigned to them. Without growth, ministries can stagnate, vision can dim, and the impact of our service may be limited. By investing in personal development, deepening our own relationship with God, we position ourselves to lead, mentor, and influence others in ways that glorifies Him.  *Scriptures:*   1. **2 Peter 3:18** – “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.” 2. **Colossians 1:10** – “So that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God.”   **Prayer Starter:**  “Father, I thank You for the calling You have placed on my life and the ministry You have entrusted to me. I pray for growth—spiritually, mentally, and practically—in every area of my service. Help me to be faithful, fruitful, and fully equipped to serve You and others with excellence. Guide my steps, expand my understanding, and increase my impact for Your glory, Lord. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.” |
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| **Prayer Point:  Pray that we mature in Christ so that we can plant and nurture positive and righteous seeds that will outgrow and out-flourish the deeds of our past.**  *Scriptures:*   * 2 Corinthians 5:17 – *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”* * Galatians 6:7–8 – *“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.”*   Prayer Starter:  “Lord, help me grow in You so that I may sow seeds of righteousness that will bear fruit for Your glory, outgrowing the mistakes of my past…” |
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| **Prayer Point: May we Die to Sin and Walk in Newness of Life**  Dying to self means turning away from sin and embracing the new life Christ offers. This is not loss, but gain—freedom to walk in righteousness, joy, and holiness.  *Scriptures:*   * **Romans 6:6** – *“Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.”* * **2 Corinthians 5:17** – *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”*  **Prayer Starter:**  “Lord, I choose to die to sin and walk in the new life You’ve given me through Christ Jesus…” |
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