



HOW TO GROW CLOSER TO GOD

LAUNCH:

- What are the signs you notice when a couple of your friends are starting to like each other?
- How is this similar to what happens when we start to grow in our relationship with God?

When two people start to like each other, they talk to each other more, want to be with each other whenever possible, and talk about that person with anyone who will listen. Our relationship with God can be like that. As we get to know him better, we spend more time talking and listening to him. We enjoy being with others who have that same desire. And we want to talk to others about him.

EXPLORE:

Read Acts 2:42. This verse is about a group of people that all became Christians together. Let's take a look at how they grew closer to God and see what we can learn.

- What were people doing in this passage as they began to grow in their faith?
- What might this look like in your life today?

Read Acts 2:46-47

- What signs do you see in these verses that these people were growing in their relationship with Jesus?
- What might this look like in your life today?

APPLY:

Just like a tree needs its roots to grow, we grow spiritually as we sink our roots into Christ in at least four ways:

1

MEET with other Christians regularly

We grow with God as we hang out with those who share our faith in Jesus.

- How does this help your faith?
- What happens if this isn't a part of your life?

2

SHARE our faith with others

Telling non-Christians about God is another way we grow as followers of Jesus. The last verse in this passage says "the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved."

- Do you think God is doing the same kind of thing today?
- If so, who in your life do you most want to know about God?

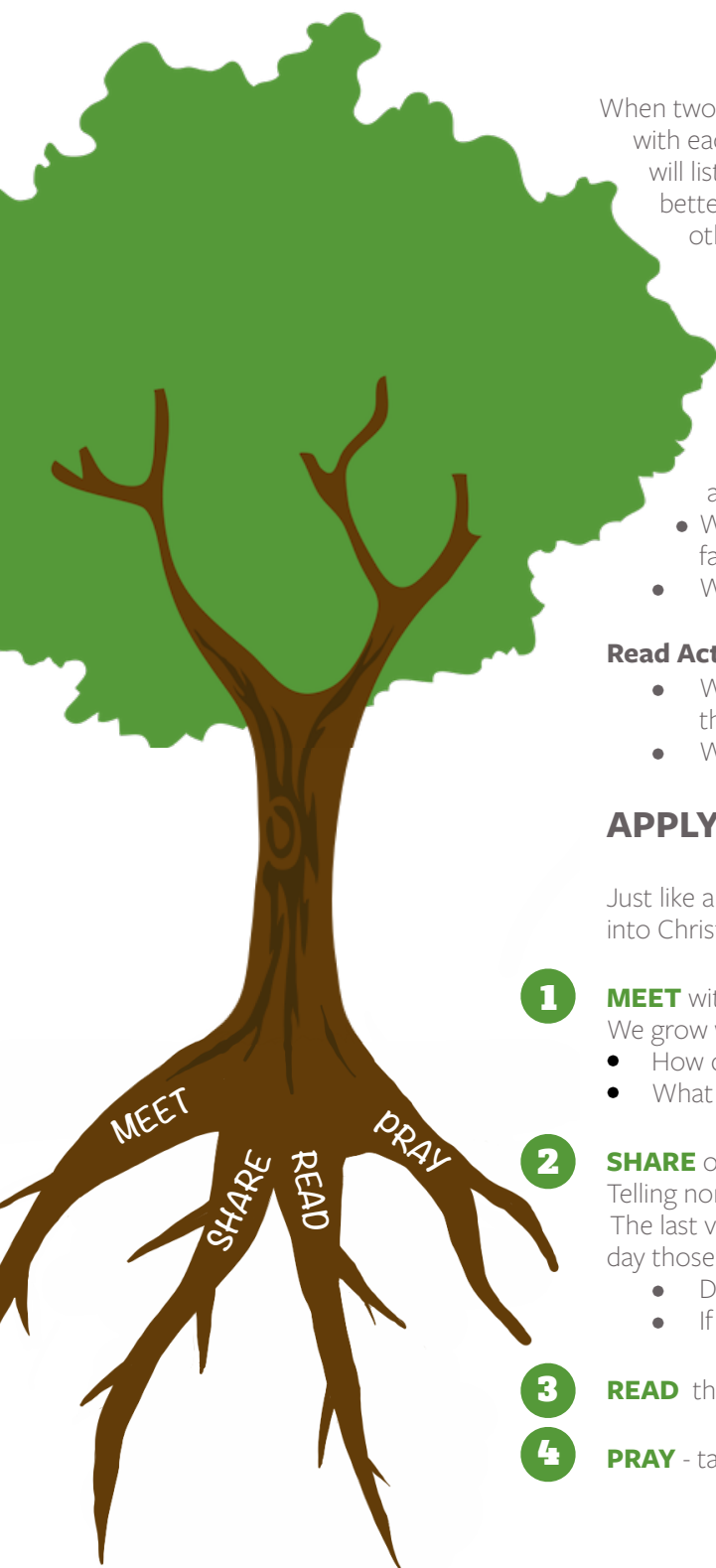
3

READ the Bible regularly

4

PRAY - talking with God

THERE'S MORE ABOUT THESE
ON THE NEXT PAGE



How to Spend Time with God

Two things that really help us grow closer to God is reading the Bible and praying to God each day. Some people call this a “quiet time” or “devotional.” We’ll call it having a “BIBLE SANDWICH.”

Pray →
Bible →
Pray →



Start by picking a verse or passage from the Bible. Let's try John 3:16 together right now!

1

PRAY

Take a minute to...

- CONFESS any sin God brings to mind (1 John 1:9). This helps you be in a good place with God as you spend time with him.
- ASK God's Spirit to show or teach you something as you read the Bible.

2

READ the BIBLE and ask three questions:

- What does this say about GOD?
- What does this say about ME (or people in general)?
- What can I do to APPLY what I've learned to my life?

3

PRAY again.

- THANK God for what you learned.
- ASK God to help you apply what you learned to your life.
- PRAY for yourself and others.

What one thing stands out to you the most from this study?

What's a step you can take with God's help to put that thing into practice this week?

START A HABIT OF READING
THE BIBLE WITH THIS PLAN!



BIBLE READING PLAN

THE GOSPEL OF **JOHN**

In the Bible the book of John tells the story of Jesus when he was here on Earth. It is a great place to start reading the Bible.

Try reading one chapter of the Bible each day with the Bible Sandwich method (it should take about 5-10 minutes each day)

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