

Why Some Christians Don't Grow



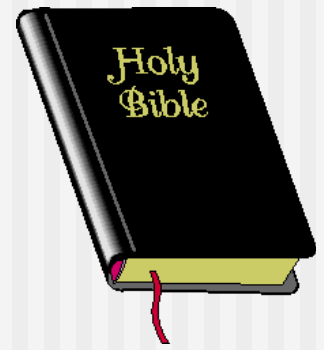
”But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.”

(2 Peter 3:18)

Why Don't Christians Grow?



- They do not see a need to grow (Jas 4:7-8)



James 4:7-8

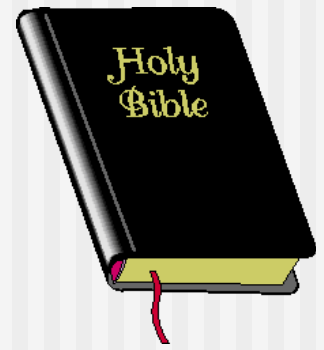
“Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.”

There is a reason to grow. Growth brings us closer to God, and farther away from the devil!

Why Don't Christians Grow?



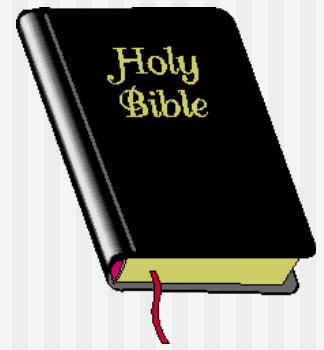
- They do not see a need to grow (Jas 4:7-8)
- They do not study and apply God's word (1 Pet 2:2; Heb 5:12-14)



1 Peter 2:2

“As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby.”

Those who are babes in Christ need to realize the close connection between Bible study and growth!



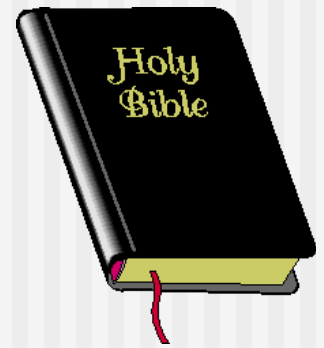
Hebrews 5:12-14

“For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. ¹³For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. ¹⁴But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”

Why Don't Christians Grow?



- **They do not see a need to grow** (Jas 4:7-8)
- **They do not study and apply God's word** (1 Pet 2:2; Heb 5:12-14)
- **They do not overcome sin** (Heb 12:1; 1 Jn 3:9)

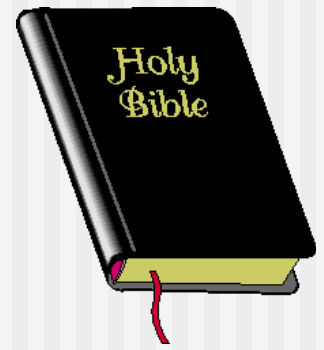


Hebrews 12:1

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.”



We must lay aside the sin that ensnares us in order to grow spiritually.



1 John 3:9

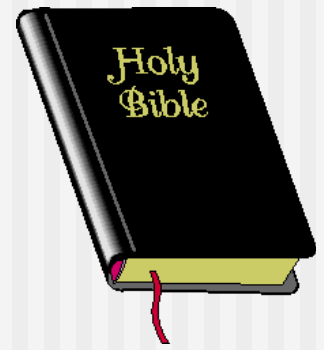
“Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.”

God’s people are prohibited from engaging in any form of sin!

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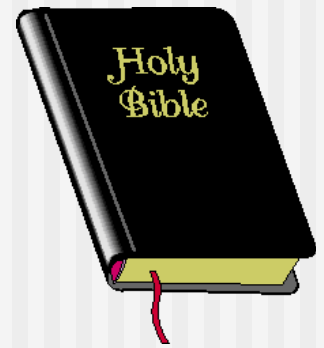
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- **They do not study and apply God's word** (1 Pet 2:2; Heb 5:12-14)
- **They do not overcome sin** (Heb 12:1; 1 Jn 3:9)
- **They become discouraged** (Matt 25:25; Gal 5:15; Rom 14:13)



Matthew 25:25

“And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.”

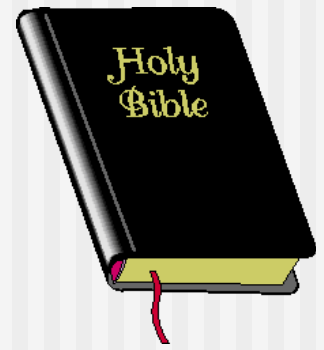
Some feel that they will never be able to make a difference in the Kingdom of God.



Galatians 5:15

“But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!”

Some are discouraged due to the mistreatment they have received from other Christians. (May we not be guilty of causing such discouragement!)



Romans 14:13

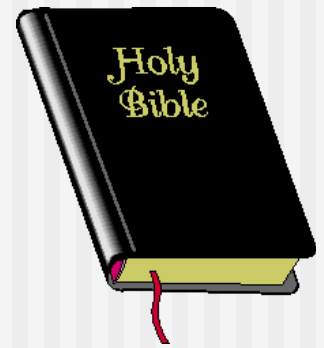
“Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way.”

Christians ought not to be a cause of offense to their brethren.

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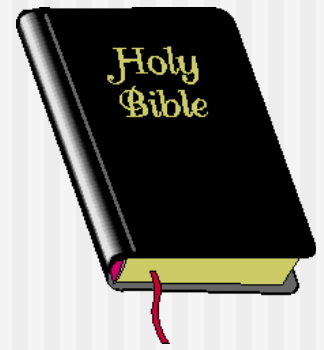
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- **They become distracted** (Matt 13:22; 6:24)



Matthew 13:22

“Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful”

Too many are more interested in worldly things than they are the things of God!



Matthew 6:24

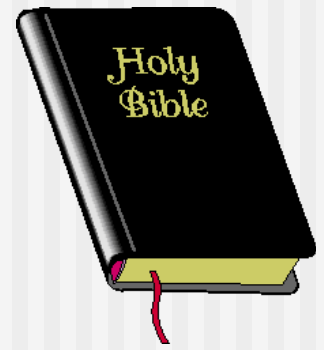
“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.”

Divided loyalties make us unfaithful to God.

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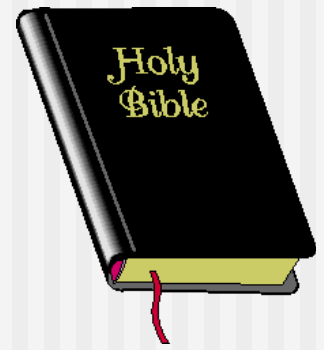
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- **They're lacking in love** (1 Jn 4:19; Jas 1:12)



1 John 4:19

“We love Him because He first loved us.”

First, love for God... (But also remember the command to love one another).



James 1:12

“Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.”

If we love God, we may have a crown of life!

Do You Want To Grow?

