

Measuring Your Spiritual Growth

“Onward and Upward We Go”

Introduction: The Bible teaches that God has taken you off of the course of the world and has set you on a course within His kingdom. With your new life-course, you have had a change of spiritual *Position* and for you to reach your course destination, there must be a change of *Perspective, Priorities* and *Principles*. As you consider your faith journey and the progress that you’ve made; consider these four things:

- It’s not that it’s easier; It’s that you are stronger. **Philippians 4:12-13** *I know how to be abased and I know how to abound. can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.* True strength of character means walking in faith-power no matter your current situation.

To get more strong; Get more Jesus.

- It’s not that it’s value has changed; It’s that your value-system has changed. **Philippians 3:7-11** *But what things were gain to me I... count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.* Some of the things that may have seemed indispensable before your conversion, should now seem as distractions from your life in Christ.

Allow God to determine your profit and loss.

- It’s not that it’s more childish. It’s that you’re more mature. **1 Corinthians 13:11** *When I was a child, I spoke.. understood... thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.* Putting away childish things is a choice that we all have to eventually make. Maturity is measured by mature priorities.

Move away from the kid stuff.

- It’s not only that it’s confused thinking; It’s that your mind is being renewed. **Romans 12:2** *And do not be conformed... be transformed by the renewing of your mind.* The Bible encourage us to be like-minded and to take on the mind of Christ. When in doubt, search the word to see what Jesus thinks about it.

To think straight; think like Jesus

The Christian experience is a faith-journey that passes directly through trails and there are no short cuts. The Bible says that trials are essential to your maturing process and maturity is a goal that you should seek to move towards. Don’t allow self-doubt to turn into God-doubt. You have come farther than you might think because it is He who brought you along. Embrace challenges as you move towards spiritual maturity.