

-Signs of Spiritual Growth-

- Trusting God the Son as Savior and Lord;
- Commitment to a local body of believers;
- The desire to attend church worship regularly, faithfully;
- Accepting the ordinances/sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper;
- Placing ourselves under the authority of Scripture, our basis for life & doctrine;
- Hunger to know & do (study & apply) God's word;
- Developing a working knowledge of the Bible;
- An increased need for quiet time with God—devotions, prayer, contemplation;
- Outreach—wanting to share one's faith, to tell others the "Good News";
- Interest in Christian fellowship, to spend time with other believers;
- "Good works", active Christian service, using one's giftedness for God's glory;
- Excitement about memorizing key Bible verses;
- Spiritual sensitivity, being *in tune* with God;
- Caring about the needs/hurts/burdens of others—compassion;
- Making progress—life isn't dormant, but an on-going pilgrimage;
- Recognizing the importance of being "*discipled*"—receiving direction/mentoring;
- Submission to the will of God, trusting Him to open the right doors;
- Spiritual priorities—God first, others second, self last;
- Reflecting the "*fruit of the Spirit*" (Galatians 5:22-23)—our lives are fruitful;
- Purity through obedience to God's moral absolutes, living lawfully;
- Life is in the process of renewal as our old life is passing away (II Cor 5:17);
- Gaining victory over temptations, seeing how strong we are;
- Generous giving (stewardship), as a privilege, not a burden;
- Doctrinal integrity is an on-going concern, knowing what we believe and why;
- Learning from stumblings & failings, overcoming sin;
- Looking for opportunities to do things for God, ways to serve Him, for His glory;
- Living according to one's convictions—beliefs determine behavior;
- Increased faith and trust in God, even when we don't understand God's ways;
- Accepting/content with what God brings to us in life, living above the circumstances;
- Realizing that Christ motivates us and does the work in us by His power, not ours;

