



14. A Life of Growth

Philippians 2:12-18

- You can't experience the life changing work of Jesus (v5-11) without it changing your life (v12-18)

1. The Challenge to Grow v12

a) Work your Christianity into every area of your life

- v12 – *“Continue to work out your salvation”*
- Doesn't mean “save yourselves” – They are already Christians
- Does mean “Bring every area of life into line because you are saved”
- The need for effort in your Christian life – not “Let go and let God”
- What implications does this have for your time/money/relationships/attitudes/reactions etc?

b) Work out your Christianity with a right attitude

- “not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence”*
- Not only when being watched, but in private,
- And in the things that can't be seen – inner thoughts and attitudes
- “with fear and trembling”* - Fighting sin is a serious business
- Not frightened of God, but fear of the dishonour we cause him

2. The Encouragement to Grow v13

a) God is at work in you

- He is always at work, nothing is too hard
- God's work in us brings him pleasure – not an awful chore
- His work is to cause us to think and act right – *“to will and do”*
- As you fight sin, resist temptation etc, God is at work
- Guards us from both despair and laziness

b) Your identity is secure

- v15 – *“children of God”*
- You are accepted because of Christ, so live up to your family name

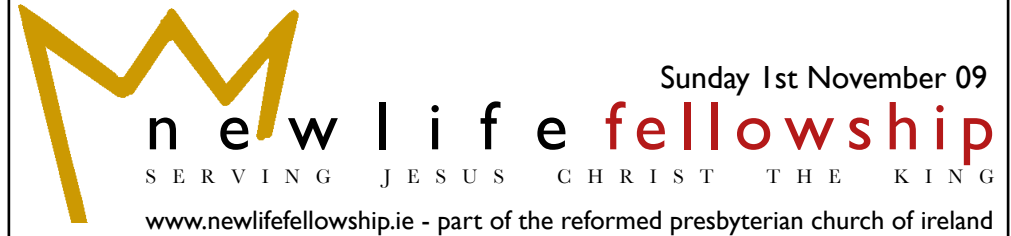
3. The Outcome of Growth v14-18

a) You will point people to Christ

- v15 – *“in which you shine like stars”*
- Growth in Christ-likeness is key to shining (evangelism)
- It backs up our words - *“holding out the word of life”*

b) You will encourage other Christians v16-18

- v16 – *“boasting”* – not negative pride, but positive delight
- Your growth isn't just about you – it encourages and spurs on other Christians.
- Is your progress and service a thrill to other Christians?



Sunday 1st November 09

new life fellowship

SERVING JESUS CHRIST THE KING

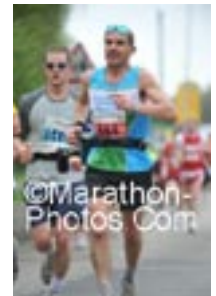
www.newlifefellowship.ie - part of the reformed presbyterian church of ireland

Notices

- | | | |
|----------|--|--------|
| Sun | Evening service at Milford RP Church
An Taisce Praise Service: God - The Master Artist | 7.30pm |
| Tues | Bible Study at Seamus & May's | 8pm |
| Wed 11th | Presbytery date change - 11th November | |
| Sat 14th | Christian Books, and Tear Craft Evening at Milford Church Hall
(Tear Fund is a Christian organisation supporting local crafts in developing countries)
from 7.30 – 9.30pm. Everyone welcome. | |

getting to know the WIDER CHURCH

- Congregation: Enniskillen
Status: New church plant - started Feb 2009
Presbytery: Western
Pastor: Robert Robb, married to Lynn, 2 children: David
(living in the US), Sarah (studying in Spain)



Prayer points:

- Give thanks for encouragements so far – people from the area who have been attending and those who are considering membership
- Pray for guidance for John George as he considers the call to work with the fellowship
- Pray that people in the town will hear about the work of the fellowship
- Pray for opportunities to minister in schools – S.U's, debating societies etc.

Sunday 8th - Phillipians 2:19-30

Opening Psalm: 106:27-31

Pastor: Mark Loughridge Tel: 074 9123961 email: mark@newlifefellowship.ie
Oversight elders: William Lynch 048 7139 8002 Robert Tait 9101668 Colin Tait 9147352