

HANGOUTS — “GROW UP”

Week of 10/11/26

“Maturity isn’t measured by how much you know...”

“It’s revealed by how much you’ve grown!”

ICEBREAKER

What’s something you used to do when you were younger that you look back on now and think,
“I can’t believe I used to act like that!”

What helped you grow out of it?

LET’S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Paul tells us to walk in humility, gentleness, patience, and love. (Ephesians 4:2)

How do you react when someone frustrates, disappoints, overlooks, or corrects you?

2. Paul tells believers to make every effort to maintain unity. (Ephesians 4:3)

Sunday Pastor said:

“Your maturity isn’t proven by how you act when people agree with you; it’s revealed by how you love when they don’t.”

Why is it sometimes easier to walk away from a difficult relationship than to work toward reconciliation?

What does protecting unity look like practically in our homes, friendships, Hangouts, and church family?

3. Read Ephesians 4:7–12.

Paul teaches us that Christ has given gifts to His people so the whole Church can be equipped and built up.

And Pastor said:

“Mature Christians don’t just consume the Church—they help build the Church.”

What’s the difference between approaching church with a **“What can I get?”** mindset and a **“How can God use me?”** mindset?

Are there gifts, experiences, or abilities God has given you that you haven’t fully started using to serve others?

4. DON’T BE TOSSED And BLOWN AROUND

Paul warns about being tossed around by every new teaching. **(Ephesians 4:13–14)**

What are some things that tend to shake your faith or spiritual stability—circumstances, emotions, people’s opinions, disappointment, or something else?

What practical habits help you remain grounded in God’s Word when life becomes difficult?

5. TRUTH AND LOVE

Paul tells us to speak the truth in love as we grow more like Christ. **(Ephesians 4:15)**

Sunday we learned:

“Truth without love can become cruelty. Love without truth can become compromise.”

Which do you personally find more difficult: speaking the truth when it’s uncomfortable, or speaking it with love and gentleness?

How can we become better at correcting, encouraging, and challenging one another without damaging relationships?

6. EVERY PART MATTERS

Paul says the whole Body grows when each part does its special work. (**Ephesians 4:16**)

Why is your personal spiritual growth important not only for you, but also for the people God has connected to your life?

How could your growth positively affect your family, your Hangout, or someone you're discipling?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

During Altar call Pastor challenged us to stop looking at who else needs to grow and begin asking: **"HOLY SPIRIT, WHERE DO I NEED TO GROW?"**

Take a moment to honestly reflect:

What is one area of your life where you know God has been calling you to grow, but you've continued making excuses, avoiding responsibility, or repeating the same patterns?

ACTION STEP

This week, identify **one specific area** where you need to grow spiritually.

Complete these statements:

- 1. The area God is challenging me to grow in is:** _____
- 2. One practical step I will take this week is:** _____
- 3. Someone who can encourage or hold me accountable is:** _____

Examples: apologizing to someone, establishing a daily prayer routine, studying Scripture consistently, beginning to serve, reaching out to someone you've neglected, or having a difficult but necessary conversation.

(Don't just recognize where you need to grow. Take a step toward growth.)

PRAYER TOPIC

Thank God for loving us enough that He continues growing and shaping us.

Forgive us for areas where we're becoming comfortable, complacent, or resistant to change.

Help us to walk worthy of our calling.

Help us to protect unity, use the gifts He has given us, and become firmly rooted in His word.

Teach us to speak truth in love and take responsibility for our own personal growth.

Make us more like Jesus so that our lives strengthen the people around us and help build The Church.