**Questions for Spiritual Growth**

If we want to grow, we should answer these questions honestly. It may be helpful to find a spiritual “mentor” - someone who we can talk through any issues with; someone who will pray with and for us, guide and challenge us where necessary.

1. How would you describe your relationship with God right now?
2. How “alive” is your prayer life?
3. What have you read in the Bible in the past week?
4. What has God said to you in this reading?
5. Where do you find yourself resisting Him these days?
6. What specific things are you praying for in regard to yourself?
7. What are the specific tasks facing you right now that you consider incomplete?
8. What things are you struggling with at the moment?
9. How do you view the “gifts of the Spirit”?
10. What habits intimidate you?
11. How are you doing with your spouse? Children? Siblings?
12. If I were to ask your spouse / friends/ siblings about your state of mind, state of spirit, state of energy level, what would their response be?
13. Are you sensing any spiritual attacks from the enemy right now?
14. If Satan were to try to invalidate you as a person or as a servant of the Lord, how might he do it?
15. What is the state of your sexual perspective? (Tempted? Dealing with fantasies? Entertainment? Confused? )
16. Where are you financially right now? (things under control? under anxiety? in great debt? Disorganised? Tithing? Paying your taxes?)
17. Are there any unresolved conflicts in your circle of relationships right now?
18. When was the last time you spent time with a good friend of your own gender?
19. What kind of time have you spent with anyone who is a non-Christian this month?
20. What would you say are your fears at this present time?
21. What three things are you most thankful for?
22. Do you like yourself at this point in your pilgrimage?
23. What are your greatest confusions about your relationship with God?

**Signs of Growth – what does it look like?**

* [1 Peter 2:1-3](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Peter%202:1-3&version=31) … tells us that we are supposed to “grow up” in our salvation.
* [Hebrews 5:11-14](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=hebrews%205:11-14&version=31)… tells us that as we grow we’ll begin to eat meat not just spiritual milk.

Simply put, if we’re not growing spiritually, something is wrong. So what evidence is there in your life that you are ***growing up spiritually?***

***1. More hunger for God in your heart and life.*** It’s the same desire I had when I met my wife. I wanted to know all about her. Her likes and her dislikes. I had a hunger to get to know her. Same is true in a growing relationship with God. You want to know more about Him. His likes and dislikes. You literally hunger to know Him.

***2. A richer prayer life than hitherto***. It doesn’t necessarily mean that praying gets any easier but if you are growing you will be able to pray for yourself and others. You will spend more time listening to God and less time just asking for stuff. You will find yourself wanting to pray more; and more things will prompt you to pray.

***3. An increasing desire to know God’s Word.*** You want to read God’s word, study God’s word and memorize God’s word. You look forward to meeting God in the mornings or evenings for your ”quiet time” because it’s through His word that you find out more about Him. (Acts 17:11)

**4*. A greater sensitivity to sin in your life.*** Sin bothers you because you hate anything that hurts your God. Like the Corinthian church, you’re willing to do whatever necessary to correct the problem (2 Corinthians 7:10-14). You want to be different from the world, not conformed to the world (Romans 12:1-2).

***5. A greater capacity to love others.*** You find it easier and easier to love those different than yourself. It doesn’t matter what their skin colour, belief system or likes and dislikes. You find it easier to love more and more people. (1 John 4:11-12)

***6. Getting easier to forgive yourself and others.*** You realize you’ve been forgiven, and you didn’t deserve it so you’re willing to forgive others too. No more petty score cards of who hurt you. Instead it’s,”who else can I forgive?” You are also able to forgive yourself for past failures. (Matthew 6:14-15. Colossians 3:13)

***7. A Growing concern for the spiritual condition of others.*** You’re not content with merely saving yourself. Instead you want to take everyone with you to heaven too. Others’ spiritual growth (or lack of it) becomes your concern too. (Galatians 4:20)

***8 More willing to serve***. Helping and serving other people becomes more natural. You are more prepared to step out of your “comfort zone” into new areas of service, even when you have little or no experience. (Ephesians 6:7, Galatians 5:13)

***9 Greater desire for spiritual gifts***. You strongly desire “spiritual gifts” not for your own benefit or reputation but because you understand that they are given to enable you to bless and minister to other people. You want to see others grow and are willing to play your part in that (Ephesians 4:16. 1 Corinthians 14:12)

***10 Wanting to be constantly growing.*** Every time one of our boys has a birthday they get to mark on their “birthday boards” how tall they are. All year long leading up to their birthday, they are comparing last year’s height with how tall they are now. They are so excited about growth. Wouldn’t it be nice if we had that kind of excitement about the growth of our spiritual lives?

Are you growing up spiritually? How did you “measure up” on these 10 things?