CALVARY CHAPEL

The Path of Spiritual Maturity

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1 Corinthians 3:1-4 Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly—mere infants in Christ. 2 I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. 3 You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans? 4 For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not mere human beings?

- 1. **Spiritual growth** – Live by the Spirit and not by the worldly desires

1 John 2:15-16 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.

- **Lust of the Flesh** – The desire "to feel"

- **Lust of the Eyes** – The desire "to have"

- **Pride of Life** – The desire "to be"

Galatians 5:16-17 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

- Being able to teach others is a sign of Christian growth and maturity

Hebrews 5:12 (NLT) You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God's word. You are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food.

1 Corinthians 3:5-9 What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. 6 I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. 7 So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. 8 The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. 9 For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.

- 2. **Spiritual growth** – Humbly serve the Lord with others

- God eternally rewards those who serve Him.

1 Corinthians 3:10-15 <u>*By the grace God has given me*</u>*, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But* <u>*each one should build with care*</u>*. 11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, 13 their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be* <u>*revealed with fire*</u>*, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. 14 If what has been built survives, the builder will* <u>*receive a reward*</u>*. 15 If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.*

- 3. **Spiritual growth** - Build on the foundation of Jesus with godly motives

Proverbs 16:2 All a person's ways seem pure to them, but motives are weighed by the Lord.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 Don't you know that you <u>*yourselves*</u> *are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? 17 If anyone* <u>*destroys*</u> *God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and* <u>*you together are that temple*</u>*.*

- 4. **Spiritual growth** – Build up the church with words and actions

- **Personal Reflection:**

- Where am I at in my spiritual growth? Am I stuck at the infant stage?

- Am I serving Jesus in humility alongside others?

- Am I building my life on the foundation of Jesus with godly motives?

- Am I building up the church or tearing it down with my words?

- Call **321.574.6970** if you have chosen to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

All Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. NLT = New Living Translation.