

## Growing In What You Already Know

### I. Introduction:

A. We know that we are supposed to grow; to mature in Christ (**Proverbs 19:2**, **Ephesians 4:14-16**, and **II Peter 3:18**).

1. We cannot begin to think though that constant learning is all we have to do. That, in itself, can mean nothing (**II Timothy 3:6-7**).
2. Proper knowledge should be useful to you spiritually and physically (**Proverbs 2:1-22**, **Isaiah 33:6**, and **Colossians 3:10**).

B. With knowledge comes accountability (**James 4:17**).

1. For whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required (**Luke 12:47-48**).
2. Knowledge has to be used properly (**Proverbs 15:1-2**).

### II. Body: **I Thessalonians 4:1-2** and **I Thessalonians 4:9-12**

A. Allowing the increase to come through the knowledge you have already obtained (**II Peter 1:1-12**).

1. It's not that we don't have to be reminded (**II Peter 3:1-2**).
2. At the same time, we should spend a good amount of time processing and applying what we presently know (**Joshua 1:1-8** and **I Timothy 4:15**).
3. Abounding more and more in what you already know (**Philippians 1:8-11**).

B. Not needing taught again, but rather living it; applying it (**Colossians 1:9-10**).

1. The word of God is able to save us (**James 1:21**), but His words are also words to "live by" (**Luke 4:4**).
2. Through His word we are able to be fruitful (**Matthew 13:23**).
3. Being fruitful in every good work (**John 15:1-5**, **Titus 3:8**; **3:14**, and **I Peter 2:11-12**).

C. We have to be careful about gaining knowledge (**I Corinthians 8:1**). Thus, it is good to measure our motives for growing in knowledge?

1. Is it just to reach an earthly accomplishment even if it is a good accomplishment (i.e. **I Timothy 3:1-2**)?
2. Is it to cure curiosities and if so, to what end (**Acts 17:16-34**)?
3. Is it a "badge of honor" for an outward show (**Proverbs 12:23**)?
4. Is it to misapply **I Peter 3:15** or **Jude 1:3**? See contexts!

III. Conclusion: We must all reach a point of growth wherein we don't have to learn, relearn, etc.; but get on with faithfully; fruitfully living it (**Hebrews 5:5-6:12**).