

God's Plan for Growth



The Beginning of the Church At Ephesus

- **The church began with a small number. Acts 19:1-7**
- **Within two years, all Asia knew of this church. Acts 19:8-20**



The Church Grew Because of Its Focus

- They did not lose sight of goals. Acts 19**
 - Taught by Paul (v. 10)**
 - Miracles were performed (v.11)**
 - Many believed, confessed (v.18)**
 - Many gave up magic (v.19)**
 - Word grew mightily (v. 20)**
 - Word of the Lord prevailed (v. 20)**

The Church Grew Because of Its Focus

- **Focus was on lost souls.**

Matthew 28:19

- **Later, they lost sight of goals.**

Revelation 2:1-7



The Church Grew Because of Sound Teaching

□ Look at Paul's work in teaching and preaching. Acts 20:17-31

- Was a good example (v. 18,19)
- Kept back nothing (v. 20)
- Testified to Jews & Greeks (v. 21)
- Innocent of blood (v. 26)
- Declared whole counsel (v. 27)
- Reminded elders (v.28)
- Warned elders (29-30)
- Reminded of warnings (v. 31)

The Church Grew Because It Followed God's Plan

- **See Ephesians 4:11-16**
- **They followed God's plan for leadership.**
Acts 20:28-31
- **God planned for the church to have evangelists.** Ephesians 4:11; 2 Timothy 4:5



The Church Grew Because It Followed God's Plan

- God planned for the church to have evangelists.
- They recognized each member had a role.
Ephesians 4:15-16;
Romans 12:4-8



The Need for Spirituality In The Family of God

- We, like the Ephesians, must be passionate about spirituality in order to make a difference.**

Ephesians 5:1-14

- Imitate God (v.1)**
- Walk in love (v.2)**
- Fornication, uncleanness, covetousness should not be in them (v. 3)**
- Warned about being deceived (v. 6)**
- Walk as children of light (v.8)**
- Strive to be acceptable to God (v. 9)**
- Not to have fellowship with darkness (v.11)**

The Need for Spirituality In The Family of God

□ True worship will impact the lives of people. Ephesians 3:14-21

□ Our spirituality is seen in our love for others. Ephesians 4:32





God wants the local church to grow; this can only happen as the individual Christian grows.