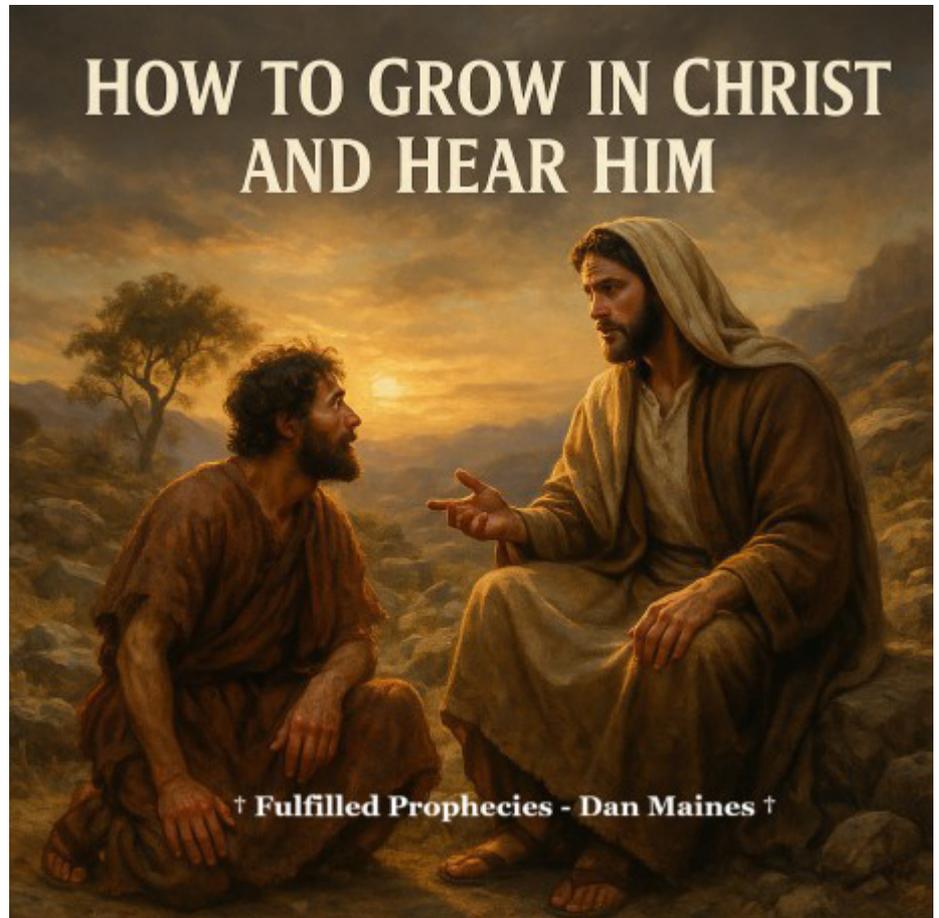


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[In Christ - How to Grow in Christ and Hear Him](#)



By Dan Maines

How to Grow in Christ and Hear Him

Where Is My Heart? Can We Hear Him Outside the Bible?

Do We Still Need His Daily Guidance?

John 15:4-5

Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

† To grow in Christ means to stay connected to Him as the source of all life. Just as a branch receives its nourishment from the vine, our spiritual strength comes only through continual fellowship with Christ.

† Abiding isn't about emotion or occasional moments of prayer, it's a continual posture of the heart that seeks His presence, His will, and His Word daily.

† Our growth isn't measured by knowledge alone but by transformation. 2 Corinthians 3:18 says we are being transformed into His image from glory to glory, which happens as we stay in communion with the Spirit through the Word.

Psalm 119:11

Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You.

† Growth in Christ begins in the heart. The Word must move from our minds to our hearts, where it shapes our thoughts and desires.

† Where's my heart? Jesus said, where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Matthew 6:21). If our treasure's in Him, our ears will be tuned to hear Him.

† Hearing Him begins with knowing His voice through His Word, for His Word reveals His character. The more we know His nature, the easier it becomes to discern His leading.

Hebrews 1:1-2

God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son.

† Can we hear Him outside the Bible? Every true revelation of God will always align with His Word. The Holy Spirit illuminates

what's already written, not new revelations beyond it.

† Jesus said, My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me (John 10:27). That hearing's through His Spirit working within us, reminding us of His Word, not adding to it.

† The Spirit confirms truth by bringing Scripture to remembrance, guiding us in righteousness, and convicting us when we drift. The voice that leads to humility, repentance, and love is His voice. The one that leads to pride, self-justification, or contradiction of His Word isn't.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

† Even if we knew every verse by heart, we still need daily guidance. Knowledge without dependence becomes arrogance, and arrogance blinds us to His leading.

† Asking daily isn't weakness, it's relationship. Jesus Himself prayed and sought the Father's will continually, showing us that reliance is strength, not lack.

† We ask because we trust Him. We listen because we love Him. And we follow because we know His way's life.

Colossians 2:6-7

Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

† Growth isn't instant. Roots take time. The deeper we go in Christ, the steadier we become when trials come.

† Walking in Him means living with continual awareness of His presence. Every decision, every thought, every word should be weighed by His Spirit and truth.

† Gratitude keeps our hearts soft. A grateful heart hears more clearly than a proud one.

Historical References

† Justin Martyr (AD 155, Dialogue with Trypho, Chapter 8) – Justin emphasized that the Spirit works through the Scriptures to reveal Christ, not apart from them. He said the Word of God's living in those who seek Him with a pure heart.

† Clement of Alexandria (AD 195, Stromata, Book 7) – Clement taught that spiritual growth comes by practicing the Word daily, saying that knowledge without obedience's like light without heat.

† Augustine (AD 400, Confessions, Book 10) – Augustine wrote that to hear God's to listen with the inner ear of the heart, for He speaks through Scripture and conscience shaped by His Spirit.

How it applies to us today

† Growing in Christ's a daily decision to remain connected, humble, and teachable. It's hearing Him through His written Word, confirmed by His Spirit in us.

† We can't separate the Spirit from the Scriptures, for the Spirit inspired them and uses them to speak.

† Asking for His daily guidance keeps us dependent, rooted, and aware that apart from Him we can do nothing.

† The mature believer still prays, listens, and obeys daily, not because they lack wisdom, but because they love the One who

gives it.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† John 15:4-5; Psalm 119:11; Hebrews 1:1-2; Proverbs 3:5-6; Colossians 2:6-7

† Matthew 6:21; John 10:27; 2 Corinthians 3:18

† Justin Martyr, Dialogue with Trypho, Chapter 8; Clement of Alexandria, Stromata, Book 7; Augustine, Confessions, Book 10

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