

# The Story Of Us



## Part 4: The Brethren In Christ (Remember When We Moved To The Country?)



### INTRODUCTION – GETTING COUNSEL FROM THE RIGHT SOURCE

Ephesians 2:19-22

2 Timothy 3:16-17

John 14:16-17, 26; 15:26-27; 16:7-11

### RAPPIN' WITH 'THE BISH' – B.I.C. ORIGINS & ISSUES

### GROWTH – THE SIGN OF LIFE!

Ephesians 4:11-16

#1) Growth is a \_\_\_\_\_ journey.  
**2 Peter 3:18; Philippians. 3:12-14**

#2) Growth is an indication of \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Proverbs 1:5; 9:9**

#3) Growth comes from \_\_\_\_\_ expressed in \_\_\_\_\_.  
**1 Peter 5:5**

#4) Growth has recognizable \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.  
**1 John 2:2-14**

### HOW CAN AN INDIVIDUAL GROW TO MATURITY IN CHRIST?

Acts 2-6

Step #1) Faithfully attend public \_\_\_\_\_.

Step #2) Joining and attending a \_\_\_\_\_.

Step #3) Using your \_\_\_\_\_ to build up others.

Step #4) Give away what God has given you = \_\_\_\_\_.

### CONCLUSION - ARE YOU COMMITTED TO YOUR OWN GROWTH?... WE ARE!

Ephesians 4:11-12

### Home Church questions...

#### WARMING UP...

1. After reviewing Sunday's message, share the one thing that most encouraged or challenged you.

#### LOOK TO THE BOOK...

2. Discuss faith as simple belief vs. as commitment to obedient action as seen in the life of Abraham, our spiritual ancestor, by comparing **Genesis 15:6** with **Genesis 22:16** (in context) and **26:5**. a) What does it mean to be, as **Ephesians 2:8** tells us, saved by "faith"? b) How does **Romans 10:9-10** inform and/or illustrate your answer? c) What role should baptism play in a person's conversion to Christ?

3. The early "River Brethren" got their unique style of baptism from an over literal interpretation of **Matthew 28:18-20**. Read this passage. a) What does **v. 19** imply about the power of other world religions to save people? b) How could you use this teaching of Jesus to respond to a person who claims "All religions are basically the same anyway"? c) What does **v. 20** say is the goal of evangelism and discipleship? On a scale of 1-10, how committed are you to this process for your own life?

4. The ultimate marriage "counselor" that we could listen to as the Bride of Christ is the Person of the Holy Spirit. Read **John 14:16-17, 26; 15:26-27; 16:7-11**. a) Summarize what we know from these passages about the Person and the role of the Holy Spirit in the world today. b) What prevents a believer today rightfully claiming to be inspired by the Holy Spirit to write new "Scripture"? c) What about these passages explains why Jesus, not the Spirit, should be in the center of our lives and teaching? d) Jesus is *Emmanuel*, God with us. How is our relationship through the Holy Spirit potentially even closer with Christ than if we lived in the time and region of Jesus?

#### SO WHAT?...

5. Accountability time – For the past two weeks we've been praying for each other in our areas of spiritual weakness, using the items of spiritual armor listed in **Ephesians 6** as a guide. How have you been actively contributing to your own growth in these areas?

Tim Day & Darrell Winger @ The Meeting House, Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2001