

# Let Us Grow

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me."

Matthew 6.24

## A New Path

### Lesson 4

"...as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby."

~I Peter 2.2

We mentioned in the first lesson that when you became a Christian, you became a *new person* (Eph 4.17-24). As a new Christian, you have to spend some time in thought about your life and where it is going. Will you keep following Jesus, or will you follow your old ways that lead away from your savior?



## Examine Yourself

Let's be honest, there are just some things that do not belong in a Christians life. Things become especially hard when the world says something is good, but God says it is bad.

The world says, "Do anything you want. Everything is good as long as you do not hurt anyone."

But the Bible says if we follow the *works of the flesh*, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.  
(Gal 5.19-21)

I want to make God happy, and I definitely want to go to heaven...



But I also want to have fun, and not lose my friends. What do I do?!



## Search Your Bible

How do we decide what belongs in our life and what does not?

Some things are **specifically** named in the Bible as sinful.

- Read Galatians 5.19-21.
- Things like drunkenness, fornication, and hatred are few sinful things.

Some things are not listed, but are **principles of God**, we should follow.

- Watching pornography on our computer or tablet is not talked about in the Bible, but warnings against fornication, adultery, and lewdness are.
- Does anyone honestly believe God would be OK with watching that stuff?
- What about using marijuana? Would God approve? (1 Peter 5.8, 1 Corinthians 5.11, 6.19-20, Titus 3.1, Ephesians 5.18)

Some things harm our **influence** as a Christian. Think about this. If we say that we are a Christian, and then are seen at the lake with friends drinking alcohol, how will anyone be able to say that we are any different than the way we were before? Will they even be able to tell that we are a Christian at all?

- The apostle Paul talks about the importance of *influence* in the life of a Christian. (1 Corinthians 8.10-13)
- The kinds of things we watch, listen to, play, and do all have an effect on the way we think and how we live our life.
- Christians must change, read Ephesians 4.17-32.

### What do you think?

- ✗ If our favorite video games are rated **M**, then are they a good influence on us?
- ✗ If our favorite movies are rated **R**, should we really be filling our minds with them.
- ✗ If our favorite music is all about *talking dirty or being dirty* then how do we honestly think we will act?

### Think about it.

