

## What Pleases God: Growth/Fruitfulness

Ponder: Are you growing and being fruitful?

Scripture: “that you may walk worthily of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God” (Col. 1:10, NKJV).

Previously we’ve seen that faith, uprightness, and moral purity please God. Is there anything else? Indeed, there are several more! Today let’s reflect on spiritual growth and fruitfulness.

Specifically, Paul first prayed that the Philippians would fully please God in every good work. Let that be our goal too! After all, God’s design for Christians includes good works. We were “created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared before that we should walk in them” (Eph. 2:10). And good works ought to be high on our list of priorities because Jesus “gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works” (Titus 2:14).

Did you know that without good works we are incomplete and displeasing to God? The Hebrews writer prayed in 13:20-21, “Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead . . . make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well-pleasing in His sight.”

But today’s Scripture also indicates that God is pleased when our knowledge of Him increases (i.e. grows). Peter concurs as he writes, “but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Pet. 3:18). Intellectual knowledge “about” God is great; but knowledge “of” God has more to do with relationship. Jesus Himself said, “And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent” (John 17:3). Christians should grow as children in loving obedience to the Heavenly Father. They should grow as servants in humble submission to Christ as Lord. They should grow as a bride in faithfulness to Jesus the bridegroom.

Let us seek to please God as Jesus did. Be fruitful in good works and grow in the knowledge of God!

Song: “Just A Closer Walk With Thee”

Prayer: Merciful Father, we are so thankful for the relationship we have with You through Christ. Help us to grow in that relationship and glorify You through good works. In Jesus’ name, Amen.