

Vision & Mission studies **ARPC Mission Grow**



Key verse: 1 Cor 3:7.

So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.



Big Idea: Christian growth is all about imitating the Lord Jesus more and more in the way we relate to God and others.

Kick Off

What were some of the aspirations and hopes and dreams you had as a child regarding what you wanted to be when you 'grew up'?

What words would you have used to describe your idea of being a 'grown up'?

This week we are focusing on what it means to Grow in Christ. And to remind ourselves again, our mission and vision statements are as follows:

Our Vision: *To be a vibrant and passionate Christ-centred church community.*

Our Mission: *To Grow in Christ, Equip through Christ, Serve like Christ and Reach others with Christ.*

STUDY

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-15

Corinth was a troubled church. The people fancied themselves as thinkers and took pride in their supposed intellectual superiority and spiritual prowess.

1. Consider vv1-4 how does Paul address and then depict these Christians and what can we learn from this?

2. When it comes to gospel seed and gospel growth how should Christian leaders treat each other and who ought to get all the glory and why?

3. Think about the farming illustration:

Make a list of all the different areas of work needed to see seeds grow and mature.

Make a list of all the different area of work needed to see the gospel grow and mature.

Define the nature of God's word and the importance of preaching from vv 5-9.

4. Consider now the range of farm sizes and farming techniques in different parts of the country and globe. What things remain fundamental to growth and what things are dependent on place and resources?

Apply the same thinking to the church... what must be constant and what ministry styles are available.

5. Consider the building illustration in vv10-15. On what basis was Paul able to work v10?

We and Paul are able to do lasting work **only** from the platform of GRACE. How is working from grace the way to Christian maturity and why are the Corinthians failing to grow like this?

THINK AND APPLY

a. Growing in our relationship with God happens particularly through personal bible reading and prayer... How are you going at this?

b. Growing in our relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ happens in intentionally meeting with them in fellowship. How important is this in your life?

c. Growing in mission is intentionally serving each other in the church community and finding ways to use our gifts for the good of our family. How are you going in this area?

d. Growing in our gospel witness is aiming to both tell and show our non-Christian friends who Jesus is and what he has done. Is this happening in your life?

PRAYER

What can you pray about arising from this study?



For next week
Read
Ephesians 4:1-16