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Principles of Christian Growth

Section Three: The Results of Christian Growth – How does it bless us?

Lesson Seven: Glorification of God is a blessing of growth.

Bible Reading: Isa. 6:1-8; Isa. 42:1-12; John 1:1-18; John 12:20-43; John 17:13-26; Rom. 11:33-36; 1 Cor. 10:23-33; Eph. 3:20-21.

The Westminster Catechism, published in 1648 by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, was designed to help Christians grow through a series of questions followed by answers that are derived from the Bible. The first question asks, “What is the chief and highest end of man?” That question’s answer affirms, “A man’s chief and highest end is to glorify God and fully to enjoy Him forever.” The verses referenced under this answer are 1 Cor. 10:31 and Rom. 11:36. Everything we do must be done for the glory of God (1 Cor. 10:31), and this is true for both us and everything else (Rom. 11:36). The glorification of God is the chief and highest end of Christian growth.

Discussion questions:

1. The apostle John tells us that there was a time when the prophet Isaiah saw the glory of Jesus Christ (John 12:41). This happened in Isaiah 6:1-8, where the prophet sees Jehovah/Yahweh “high and lifted up.” In what ways does Isaiah grow as a believer through this experience?
2. We have learned that Christian growth is growing in Christlikeness. What was Christ like when it came to glorifying God the Father (John 1:1-18, 17:13-26)?
3. The church is the God-designed program He is using to glorify Himself today (Eph. 3:20-21). How are the challenges of church ministry special opportunities to glorify God as growing Christians (1 Cor. 10:23-33)?