

When Discipleship Growth Stalls

Sometimes, our actions are out of sync with the faith we profess as disciples of Jesus Christ. We make mistakes and consequently experience setbacks in our discipleship journey. These seasons of stagnation in our spiritual growth are not necessarily evidence of weak faith. Even the Apostle Peter experienced setbacks in his journey of discipleship. Scripture is clear that God is with us even during these seasons, guiding us, helping us understand what he expects of us, and reminding us what his Holy Spirit is doing for us. Join us as we study the scriptures to better understand repentance and the ready abundance of God's grace and forgiveness for reinvigorating our discipleship growth.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What does it mean to grow as a disciple?
- Have you ever experienced a plateau or even a setback in your faith life? If so, what did it feel like?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [When Discipleship Growth Stalls](#)

READ [Acts 10:34-48](#), [Galatians 2:11-16](#), [James 1:22-27](#), [1 John 1:8-10](#), [Philippians 3:12-14](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In segment 1, host Darrell Delaney made an interesting distinction: “He [God] is not looking for us to be perfect, but he is looking to perfect us in our walk with him.” What does that mean to you? How does it make you feel?
- Have you ever felt pressure, like Peter did, to behave a certain way even though it's not required for following Jesus? What setbacks have you experienced in your faith?
- While reflecting on [James 1:22-27](#), Darrell and host Scott Hoezee called following Jesus a *lifestyle*. What difference does it make to think about discipleship as a lifestyle rather than a pattern of specific behaviors?
- How has God helped you sustain your faith despite problems, challenges, or setbacks?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Jonah 4:10-11](#), [Matthew 7:24-27](#), [1 Timothy 1:15-17](#), [Romans 5:1-5](#), [Romans 6:1-14](#)

CONCLUSION

Consider the following questions: Are there areas of discipleship in which you find it difficult to progress? What do you think gets in your way? We learn in [1 John 1:8-10](#) that the first step to maturity as a disciple of Jesus is to confess and repent. Then, like Paul in [Philippians 3:12-14](#), we are encouraged to continue walking with Christ, growing in Christlikeness, and trusting God to pick us up and keep us going. Bring what you reflected on from this episode to the Lord in prayer; confess what you need to continue to mature in Christ, and give thanks for the forgiveness, grace, and mercy found in Jesus.

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