Grow or die

 What’s on your bucket list? Travel, sky diving, walking the trail of Mordor(or just riding the giant eagle the whole way)

 Did you know that 100% of people’s lives end in death? It’s a part of life, but we don’t have to worry about death if we’re saved in Christ. There’s a lot of life that is just going to happen. Some good some bad. You will one day have a change in taste, pay taxes, need a job, work with someone or something you don’t like. One thing we all have to do is grow. As a person, in knowledge, in skill, in size, and most importantly in faith. Did you know that according to a study done by the mayo clinic the age at which kids hit puberty has changed 4-5 years in the last 100 years? Kids used to hit puberty at 16-17 now its 12-13. Depending on race it can start as early as 7-9 years old. Your being forced to grow up faster and faster. More responsibility, more maturity, more and more are being piled on. Like you can’t just be a good student, you’ve got to be an athlete, involved in extra curricular stuff. It’s nuts. Sometimes it’ll be out of your control. For me I was a latchkey kid at 8, blah blah blah, it’s not fair but one place we can and need to focus on growth or maturity is spiritually.

1 Corinthians 13:11 When I was a child I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me.

We need to recognize when it’s time to grow up. We need to be constantly challenging ourselves to get better every day.

1 Corinthians 14:20 Brothers, stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults.

Here Paul is talking to the church about understanding gifts and their role in the church at the time, but the verse still applies to us. At a certain point we’ve got to focus in our mature things. I love video games but if I spent all my time thinking about video games at a certain point I’d run out of money, and food. I have to be able to see the bigger picture and be mature in my planning. We have to see that our spiritual growth is part of God’s plan for us to grow closer to him and develop a deeper relationship.

Ephesians 4:13-15 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

**14**Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. **15**Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

Spiritual growth is a must. It will anchor us and keep us focused on what’s truly important. Making it off this rock alive. So whatever is on your bucket list I want you to add something to it. Top of the list should be grow in spiritual maturity so we can stay focused and grow closer to God. There is no plateauing as a Christian, or in life. We either grow or die. If we don’t use our skills like sports or video games we lose them. Same is to be said of our faith. If we don’t grow and challenge ourselves we will die spiritually.

For Junior church

One body many parts 1 Corinthians 12:14-31

Picking up a rod as a group

What’s your talent?

Now some of them may be the same as other people but it takes our talent to make the group as a whole excel.

Each one of us have a talent that can help build the church. And that makes us stronger.

1 Corinthians 13 goes to explain that we need to use these talents paired with love so we can help people.