

# WHO NEEDS COMPASSION?

*moms everywhere*



## Devotionals: Growing



### PRAY TO START

Ask God for help to grow in your faith and love for Him.

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What do you need to grow your body? What do you need to grow in Jesus?

### ABOUT GROWTH

Do you remember being smaller than you are today? Maybe you couldn't reach a cupboard or bookshelf that you can now. All living things grow. It's one of the characteristics they all share. Have you ever tried to grow a plant from a seed? It's such an exciting moment when you first see a bud appear above the surface of the soil. There's nothing you can do to make your seed grow. You can stare at it for hours, even for days, and no amount of wishing it to grow will make any difference. Growth is amazing. It is a miracle.

### WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

2 Peter 3:18, NIV

### A THOUGHT

As well as growing our bodies by giving them food, water, air to breathe and exercise, God can grow us spiritually.

In the Bible there are various letters from Christians to other Christians encouraging them in how they can grow in God.

This verse from one of Peter's letters tells us to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus, who is our Lord and Savior. How do we grow in grace and knowledge of Jesus?

Grace is the forgiveness that Jesus gave us for our sins. We deserve to be punished for the wrong things we do but rather than punish us, Jesus took the punishment for all of the things we've ever done and will ever do wrong and forgave us. We can grow in grace and knowledge by getting to know Jesus better. A few ways we can do this are by reading the Bible, praying, and spending time with other people who love Jesus too.

We can also grow in grace by trying to act more like Jesus, in showing grace to other people who do wrong things to us. We have been forgiven by God so we can, in turn, forgive other people and show them grace.

Let's grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ together!

### WHY NOT...

Make your own growth tree. Collect some small branches or twigs and put in a vase or old jam jar. Print out the template for leaves on the next page and cut out each leaf. Write on the leaves different words or phrases about how to grow in Jesus. For example, "Read the Bible" or "Spend time with God."

Then color in the leaves, punch a hole at one end, and tie onto the branches with ribbon.

As well as making a great decoration, your tree can remind you of the different ways you can grow in Jesus.

### PRAYER

Thank God for His love and goodness and ask Him to help you grow in grace and knowledge of Him.

# Growing

For best results,  
print on to card.

