

# Fit in 50

Growing Spiritually

Beyond Maintenance



## CORE VALUE

### GROWING SPIRITUALLY

We strive to become more like Jesus through discipleship and personal growth

## BEYOND MAINTENANCE

[Mark 10:13-31]

**These two moments in Mark 10 provide insight into two areas we must focus on to move beyond maintenance in our walk with God to abundance in our lives together as the body of Christ.**

### (1) Walking Side-by-Side - Discipleship [10:13-16]

[Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 1:27; Ephesians 2:10]

### (2) Comprehending Grace - Gift [10:17-31]

[Isaiah 42:1-4; Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Peter 3:17-18]

## Discussion Questions

1. Read Matthew 10:13-16. Having faith like a child requires setting aside our will. When we do this we resist harmful attitudes and behaviors that get in the way of trusting Christ and giving him control of our lives. It leads to us admitting that we do not always know what is best and humbles us, which can be challenging. After reading this definition of child-like faith do you see it in your daily walk with God?
2. Read Isaiah 43:16-21 and 1 Peter 2:9-10. What do these two verses tell us about God's desire to care for us? Can you think of a new thing God is doing in your life right now?
3. Read **Isaiah 42:1-4** and **2 Peter 3:17-18**. In these six verses we see the **promise of grace** and the **call to growth in the grace and knowledge of Jesus** [this brings glory to God]. Can you think of a time in your life when you felt vulnerable in a situation and God showed His compassion in your life and as a result, you grew spiritually?
4. Pray for God to give you a fresh vision to move past Spiritual maintenance into the abundant life available to all of us as we grow and become more like Him.

**Mark 10:13-31** And they were bringing children to [Jesus] that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. <sup>14</sup> But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God." <sup>15</sup> Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." <sup>16</sup> And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

<sup>17</sup> And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>18</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" <sup>20</sup> And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." <sup>21</sup> And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." <sup>22</sup> Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

<sup>23</sup> And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" [ **Timothy 6:17-18** ] <sup>24</sup> And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." <sup>26</sup> And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" <sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." <sup>28</sup> Peter began to say to him, "See, we have left everything and followed you." <sup>29</sup> Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, <sup>30</sup> who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup> But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

**Isaiah 43:16-21 [promise of provision]** Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, <sup>17</sup> who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a **wick**: <sup>18</sup> "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old." <sup>19</sup> Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. <sup>20</sup> The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, [ **1 Peter 2:9-10** ] <sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.

**Isaiah 42:1-4 [promise of grace]** Behold my servant [set apart], whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; He will bring forth justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup> He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; <sup>3</sup> a bruised reed he will not break [marked by compassion], and a faintly burning wick he will not quench [care for the vulnerable]; He will faithfully bring forth justice. <sup>4</sup> He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.

**2 Peter 3:17-18 [call to growth]** You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. <sup>18</sup> But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.