

**MORE HOLINESS GIVE ME**  
**1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:1**

**INTRODUCTION**

- A. What can you never get enough of?
  - 1. Ice cream sundae – sprinkles.
  - 2. Fun and sun – beach/snow ski
  - 3. Money
  - 4. More family time.
  - 5. “Just one more...”
  - 6. Extreme games – more flips, more speed, more danger!
- B. How about in our spiritual walk with God?
  - 1. Lyndell Baker’s challenge – More Holiness Give Me.
  - 2. The word “More” used 24 times in the song.
  - 3. Extreme Christianity – more is better!

**I. INCREASE IN THE LORD.**

- A. Our Christian Walk Defined.
  - 1. Jesus’ challenge.
    - a. Matthew 13:8 – yielding crop.
    - b. John 15:1-2 – bearing fruit.
    - c. Matthew 22:37 – ALL your heart, ...
  - 2. Throughout the New Testament, our Christian walk is defined by growth.
    - a. Ephesians 4:15
    - b. 1 Peter 2:2
    - c. 2 Peter 1:8
    - d. 2 Peter 3:18
- B. Scripture Regarding “Growth”.

1. Titus 2:14	2. Romans 12:11
3. 1 Cor. 14:12	4. 1 Cor. 15:58
5. 2 Cor. 9:2	6. Phil. 1:27
7. Phil. 3:12-14	8. Titus 3:1
9. 2 Peter 3:14	10. Jude 3

**II. MORE HOLINESS GIVE ME.**

- A. The Lord Causes the Increase.
  - 1. But, we must truly desire it.
    - a. We receive the Spirit at baptism, Acts 2:38; 5:32.
    - b. The Spirit helps us in our pursuit of “more”.
      - i. Gal. 5:22-23
      - ii. Ephesians 3:16
    - c. But, we can also quench the Spirit, 1 Thess. 5:19.
  - 2. When we spend time in God’s Word and in prayer.
  - 3. When we spend time in fellowship with God’s people.
  - 4. When we spend time in worship.

- B. Dealing with the Heavens, Ephesians 1:3.
  - 1. “Heavenly places” is better translated “heavens” (the spiritual realm).
    - a. Eph. 2:6 – seated with Christ.
    - b. Eph. 3:10 – make known the wisdom of God.
    - c. Eph. 6:12 – struggle against spiritual forces.
  - 2. Are we so focused on our day to day that we overlook the need for spiritual growth?
- C. Our Walk with Christ.
  - 1. As we concentrate on growing into Jesus, our growth will become obvious.
    - a. It is just like watching our children grow physically, mentally, spiritually.
    - b. We should recognize that we are growing in the Lord.
  - 2. *More holiness give me, more strivings within,  
 More patience in suffering, more sorrow for sin,  
 More faith in my Savior, more sense of His care,  
 More joy in His service, more purpose in prayer.*  
  
*More gratitude give me, more trust in the Lord,  
 More pride in His glory, more hope in His word.  
 More tears for His sorrows, more pain at His grief.  
 More meekness in trial, more praise for relief.*  
  
*More purity give me, more strength to o’er come,  
 More freedom from earth-stains, more longings for home;  
 More fit for the kingdom, more useful I’d be,  
 More blessed and holy, more, Savior, like Thee.*
  - 3. Phil. 2:5-10

## CLOSING

- A. Are you growing in the Lord?
- B. Are you striving for more?