



# MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

eBulletin weekly issue No. 165 • June 5, 2023

www.mountainstreamchurch.com

## GROW

### MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*2 Peter 3:18  
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.*

After addressing some persistent dangers facing believers, Peter sums up his solution at the conclusion of his brief epistle by exhorting Christians to “grow in the grace and knowledge of . . . Jesus Christ.” Peter is challenging believers to develop two aspects of their Christian life.

First, believers must grow in grace. Grace in this context has to do with practical Christian living. Amid defection and confusion of those who mishandle the Word of Christ, Peter challenges his listeners to pursue practical Christian living. This is an important reminder in our day when

many claim to know Christ without any visible lifestyle changes to corroborate their claims. The heart of Christianity is radical change – not only in the world to come – but in the here and now. God desires to help Christians develop a holy character like Christ’s. He has given us the Holy Spirit who will empower us to change, but we need to intentionally embrace godly living so we can avoid returning to the sinful lifestyle from which God rescued us (2 Peter 1:9).

Believers not only need to grow in grace, but they also need to grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. The Christian walk must be one of deepening intimacy with Christ. Unfortunately, many Christians are content with a basic confession of faith in Christ. Their primary goal is to simply secure a spot in Heaven while they continue to walk in spiritual ignorance. They make important choices with little understanding of what God would actually have them do. They embrace values and attitudes which are primarily influenced by their own minds and the prevailing

cultural winds. This sad reality reflects both our laziness and our lack of zeal for God. God would have none of that. He wants those who belong to Christ to pursue an ever-deepening love relationship based on their growing knowledge of Him. This knowledge grows out of their study of the Word and their experience of Christ working in their lives as they obey the Word. As believers grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ, they experience stability and fruitfulness.

How are you doing in your Christian walk? Are you studying God’s Word and obeying it so you are growing in your knowledge of Christ, and in godly living? What steps will you take this week to advance your growth in the Lord? May God help each of us to grow in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

God bless you,

Pastor James

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

**CORPORATE PRAYER**  
TUE @ 7 PM

**JUN 6**

Join us via Zoom video  
Please contact Pastor James for log on information at [rcantio@gmail.com](mailto:rcantio@gmail.com)

**YOUTH GROUP**  
FRI @ 6:45 PM

**JUN 9**

In-person at church.  
For teens ages 13 and over

**EVENING SERVICE**  
1st & 3rd  
SUN @ 6 PM

**JUL 2 & JUL 16**

Join us in-person at church

**KIDZONE & NURSERY**  
SUN @ 11 AM

**JUN 11**

These ministries are available every Sunday during the morning service  
Kidzone for ages 6-12 yrs. old.

**GROWTH GROUPS**  
THU & FRI @ 7 PM

**Begin**

**JUN 8 & JUN 9**

In-person at church.

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
SUN @ 11 AM

**JUN 11**

In-person service and Livestreaming on Facebook, Youtube and our webpage.

- **Vacation Bible School is July 17-21.**
  - A) Members may sign up to serve at the Information Center.
  - B) Students can be registered online.
- **Men’s Breakfast Saturday @ 9am.** Invite a friend and bring something to share for breakfast if you can.
- **Explore Mountain Stream Class** for folks interested in becoming members or just finding out what our church believes continues Sunday at 10 am. Sign up at the Information Counter to attend.
- **Growth Groups begin** Thursday and Friday **June 8 & 9.** Please sign up online or at the Information Counter to attend one convenient to you.
- Join us for our **Father’s Day picnic** following the morning service on **June 18.** The church will provide the burgers and hotdogs and you may bring sides and/or desserts. Please sign up at the Information Counter if you are bringing an item.
- Join us on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 3:15 at the Garden at Stroud as we sing and share the gospel with the residents. Contact Tom for more information.
- Bible Reading plans for 2023 are available at the Information Center. Also, read Pastor Jimmie’s daily blog on the readings via the link on our website.

### QUICK TIPS ON WAYS TO GIVE YOUR OFFERING

Traditional during the Sunday morning service, with a check by mail or through our secured website. Please remember to hit “SAVE” after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!