

“God Wants Me To Grow”

1. READ

Scripture: Daniel 5: 22 - 28 New King James Version (NKJV)

²² “But you, Belshazzar, his son,^[d] have not humbled yourself, though you knew all this.

²³ Instead, you have set yourself up against the Lord of heaven. You had the goblets from his temple brought to you, and you and your nobles, your wives and your concubines drank wine from them. You praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or understand. But you did not honor the God who holds in his hand your life and all your ways. ²⁴ Therefore he sent the hand that wrote the inscription.

²⁵ “This is the inscription that was written:

MENE, MENE, TEKEL, PARSIN

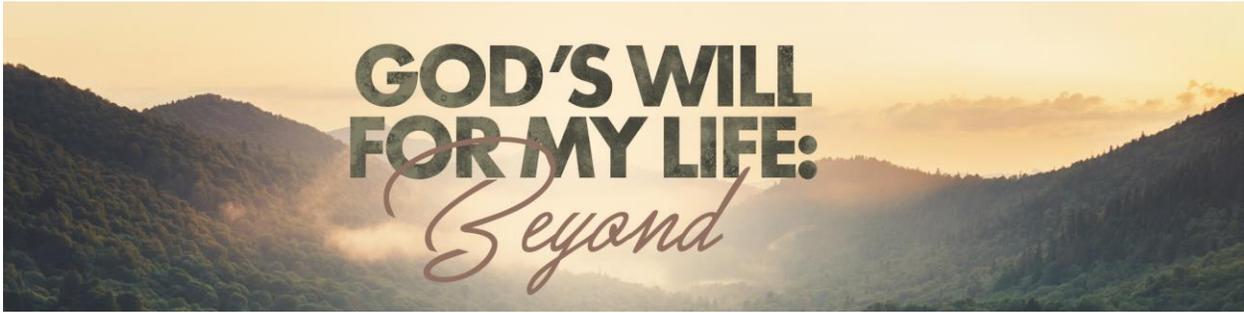
²⁶ “Here is what these words mean:

Mene^[e]: God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.

²⁷ *Tekel*^[f]: You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.

²⁸ *Peres*^[g]: Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.”





Suggested Chapters to Study This Week: Genesis 12: 1-8 and Matthew 12: 46-50

REFLECT



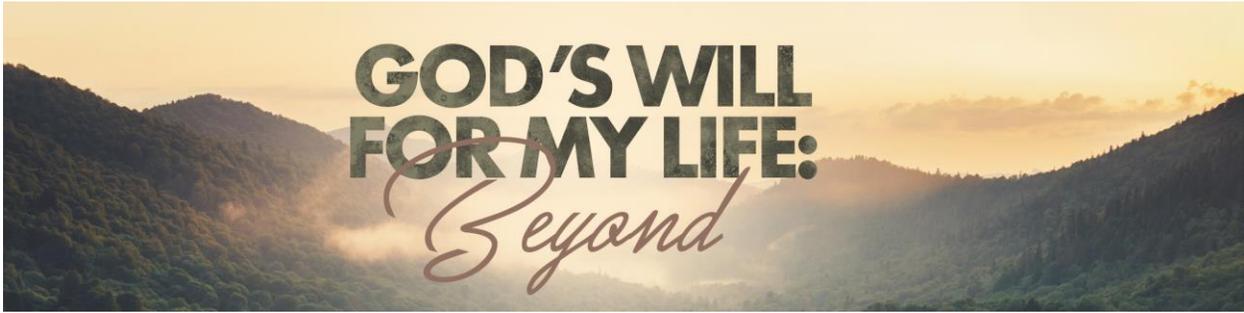
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In week two of the new sermon series from Pastor Watley, he uses as a title “God wants me to grow”. Pastor uses the story of King Belshazzar in the Book of Daniel as the focus scripture. However, before the scripture Pastor tells us that God wants us:

- To Grow **UP**
- To Grow **IN**
- And to Grow **OUT**.

God wants more from us and this "more" begins with us growing up in God. Pastor shares this term dendrochronology; this is the method of using the rings of the tree to determine its age.





Scientists also use the age of trees to measure the age of animals and objects around these trees. Pastor brings up this point to say that as God has allowed for science to have a way to measure age through Biology to assist us in knowing how things grow and age, what about in Theology? There isn't a way to identify our spiritual growth or age in Christianity but it's clear that God wants us to grow, as Pastor states. Pastor says *“Real growth and maturity isn't determined by where you are but how you operate where you are.”* Pastor Watley, shares that our faith walk is a process and he gives these steps:

From Sin to Salvation

- From Salvation to receiving the Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit leads us to Sanctification
- Sanctification leads us to submission to Reign and Rule
- Then submission to Reign and Rule leads us to Transformation in Christ and through Christ.

Pastor shares this model of growth that he saw from the navigators' groups and life way.





This model shows that God expects for us to:

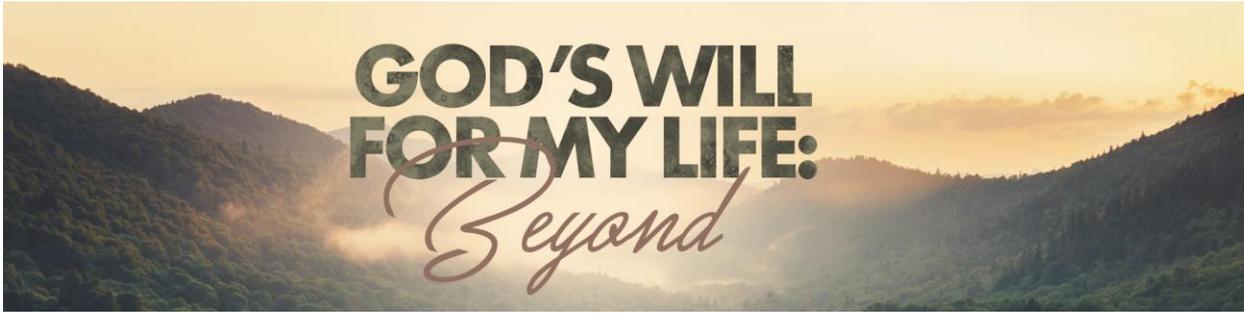
- Grow UP
- Grow IN
- Grow OUT

Each step has a process and Pastor shares with Grow up we need the:

- **Grace** to Grow
- **Race** to Grow
- **Space** to Grow

As we move to Grow in and then Grow out Pastor leaves us with the question, where are you on the weighting scale? God is calling us an expecting us to Grow...





1. RESPOND

Introspective Questions

- ï Where are you growing in Christ?
- ï How are you growing in for Christ?

Discussion Questions

- ï What do you think those around the King thought when they saw the writing on the wall?
- ï How do you think this moment encourage Daniel as he continued to serve God?

