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## THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

***“Grow in grace and understanding of our Master and Savior, Jesus Christ  
Glory to the Master, now and forever! Yes!”  
2 Peter 3:18 (MSG)***

**The journey toward spiritual maturity lasts a lifetime:** As Christian parents, we can and should continue to grow in the love and the knowledge of our Savior as long as we live. **When we cease to grow, either emotionally or spiritually, we do ourselves and our loved ones a profound disservice.** But, if we study God’s Word, if we obey His commandments, and if we live in the center of His will, we will not be “stagnant” believers; we will, instead, be growing Christians . . . and that’s exactly what God wants for our lives.

**Many of life’s most important lessons are painful to learn.** During times of heartbreak and hardship, God stands ready to protect us. **As Psalm 147 promises, “He heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds” (NCV).** In His own time and according to His master plan, God will heal us if we invite Him into our hearts.

**Spiritual growth need not take place only in times of adversity.** We should seek to grow in our relationship with the Lord through every season of our lives, through happy times and hard times, through times of celebration and times of pain.

In those **quiet moments** when we open our hearts to God, the One who made us keeps remaking us. **He gives us direction, perspective, wisdom, and courage.** And of course, the appropriate moment to accept those spiritual gifts is always the present one. **AMEN.**

**“For this reason also, since the day we heard this, we haven’t stopped praying for you. We are asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.” AMEN.  
Colossians 1:9 (HCSB)**

Jim Cymbala  
**100 Daily Prayers for My Family**

*“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20*

