

Your Next Step with God's Word
"How to Keep Growing"
Luke 8:7,14

The **goal** of planting the seed is to produce growth, **fruit** and a harvest.

1. How spiritual growth gets **choked** out in your life:

- Destructiveness of **Worrying** Chokes **Peace**
- Deceitfulness of **Wealth** Chokes **Joy**
- **Distractions** of the World Choke **Love**

2. How to **stop** choking out spiritual growth:

Learning to **HEAR** the Word of God activates the **power** of the Word.

Humble Openness

Eager Acceptance

Active Obedience

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- Obedience out of **love**, not obligation or **fear**.
- Active obedience is **pre-determined** obedience that says "Yes, Lord."
- **Simple** obedience: don't complicate it, don't rationalize it. Just **do** it.

3. How active obedience stops the **choking** of spiritual growth:

- Act of Obedience: stopping to **pray** stops worry and brings peace.
- Act of Obedience: **giving** and **tithing** defeats the deceit of wealth.
- Act of Obedience: intensifying your love for God **overpowers** lesser loves.

Core CHRISTlike Characteristics: Connected to God through the Word and Prayer