

GRACE NOTES

Series: FAMILY VALUES

Message: Taking Ownership

Date: Sunday, October 23, 2016

Core Value:

Every Christ follower has a personal responsibility to take ownership of his or her own spiritual growth, while we, as a church, have a responsibility to provide the inspiration, information, and resources necessary for that growth to occur.

STUDY NOTES

Seeds hold the potential for producing a harvest far beyond the size. What do those seeds need to grow and produce? How are individual believers like those seeds? What do believers need to grow and produce?

What is one significant event that caused your faith to grow?

Thinking back to Sunday's message, what challenged you, encouraged you, made you think, or made you consider some change in your life?

Read **Philippians 3:12-14**.

How would you describe Paul's attitude toward spiritual growth?

What is his attitude toward the past?
What is his attitude toward the present?
What is his attitude toward the future?

How might these verses apply to our lives?

Read **John 15:1-8**.

How important is it to Jesus that His followers produce fruit?

Does Jesus tell us whose responsibility it is to produce spiritual fruit? If so, who is it?

What do you think it means to "remain" or "abide" in Jesus?

Read **Colossians 1:28-29**.

What does Paul say he is striving for in the church in Colossae?

Even though Paul and the church leaders are putting for maximum effort, where does he say the power comes from?

Describe how a Christian's personal responsibility and the local church's responsibility go together?

What happens if the believer isn't committed to personal growth? What happens if the church isn't providing the environment for believers to grow?