

Hi Church Friends and Family,

I'm excited you have picked up this binder. It represents a journey we will be taking in 2013: WE Grow. The upcoming year will be divided into ten sections with each section lasting from three to six weeks. (If you begin worshipping with us during the year, as many of you will, you can start the WE Grow journal anytime!) We will focus on growth. Growth in our relationship with God. Growth in our relationships with others. Growth in our emotional, physical, and financial well-being. And, growth in our kindness and compassion to the world.

Each Sunday you will be provided with a one-page insert for this binder. Occasionally you will be provided additional resources such as prayers or devotional readings. The format will vary from section to section, but the goal is to help us engage God throughout the week. Each week will have questions for reflection, suggestions to focus our prayer life, and a weekly challenge to help us grow. **Bring your binder on Sunday mornings to take notes and organize your resources.**

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Christianity is not just about religion or theology. Jesus is fully human. He invites us to grow in our relationship with Him. Jesus is also fully God. He invites us to grow by applying His teachings and His lifestyle to our lives.

As pastor, with God's help, I will do my absolute best to make this year the most biblical, the most relevant, the most creative, and the most applicable that I possibly can. Our other preachers will strive for the same level of excellence. We will also do our best to make our weekend worship and the daily WE Grow devotional time with God both interesting and enjoyable! I welcome your prayers.

I also invite you to utilize the WE Grow material regularly. We will only get out of this year what we put into it. Our output will not exceed our input! I encourage you to have a friend, family member, or a person in your small group hold you accountable for your progress. I also invite you to do the same for the other person. If you are married – the WE Grow devotional guides will be great to do together and will be a blessing to your marriage.

If you have to miss a week of worship, we will post a printable version of the WE Grow journal on our website - www.WatersEdgeOmaha.com - before the weekend worship services and we will post an audio and video of the weekend's message usually by Monday evening. We will also have past WE Grow devotionals and CDs and DVDs of the weekend messages at the resource table on Sunday mornings.

I'm looking forward to growing with you in 2013!

Craig Finnestad

“Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times.” - Mark 4:8