

# The Power to Grow

By Lea Vaverchak

for use as  
STEP 1**Lesson 6****Focus:**

God helps us grow to be more like Jesus.

**Lesson 6****Bible Basis:**

2 Peter 1:1-11

**Lesson 6****Memory Verse:**

His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life.  
—2 Peter 1:3

**Students will discuss the power God gives us to become more like Him and ways in which we see it in our lives.**

**Materials:**

Internet access

As you have opportunity to interface with your students via a video conferencing platform or even e-mail, text, or phone call, be sure to ask each one personally how they are doing and ask if you can pray with them. There will be a variety of responses. Some will just be bored, others scared. Some may have been directly affected by COVID-19 through illness or job losses in their family. Be sensitive to what you might find. Remember, it's possible some of them may display an "it's no big deal" attitude as a coping mechanism to hide other emotions.

**Schools in our country have been closed for a while due to the COVID-19. Some teachers are teaching classes online, but other students are being homeschooled by parents, grandparents, or even siblings.**

➤ **If this has been your experience, what's been the biggest difference between home school and regular school?** (Answers might include: It's weird not having my regular teacher to explain everything to me; not having my friends around every day; doing all of my schoolwork on the computer at home is kind of boring; school was more fun, etc.)

➤ **How is your homeschool teacher different than your school teacher? How are they the same?** (Answers will vary: My grandma doesn't like math like my schoolteacher does; my dad and my school teacher joke around a lot while we work, etc.)

**What a change! Moms and dads who haven't done math in years are now math teachers! Is this situation making you laugh or cry? Let's watch a silly clip of what homes across America might look like right now.**

Kid Snippets: "Math Class" (Imagined by Kids) [2:10]:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KdxEAf91D7k&feature=youtu.be>

➤ **Is this how you're learning math from your parents right now? Total confusion???** (Allow students to share their most frustrating experience in this "new normal" of school at home.)

➤ **Can you still learn even if it's different than what you're used to? Explain.** (Possible answers might include: Sure, it just might take more time to get used to a new way of learning; yes, but you have to be more flexible and not expect things to be exactly the same as school, etc.)

➤ **Are there other things you've learned during this time at home, that had you been at school you might have missed out on?** (Allow students to share their most positive learning experiences in this “new normal” such as learning to cook, how thoughtful and caring others are when something bad is happening, or that they like traditional school even though they didn't think they did.)

**We don't know how long this new normal will last. Confusion and frustration are expected, but so are new, unexpected, positive things—be on the lookout for those! Take this time to enjoy nature, make fun crafts or spend extra time with your family. We can always learn and grow, no matter how different it looks.**

**In today's lesson, the apostle Paul was adamant that Christians continue to learn and grow, too. Why was it so important for them to grow? Wasn't believing in Jesus enough? Let's check it out.**

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

# The Power to Grow

for use as  
**STEP 4** 

**Lesson 6****Focus:**

God helps us grow to be more like Jesus.

**Lesson 6****Bible Basis:**

2 Peter 1:1-11

**Lesson 6****Memory Verse:**

His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life.  
—2 Peter 1:3

**Materials:**

- Hangers
- String or yarn
- Scissors
- Paper plates, cardstock, or construction paper
- Markers/colored pencils

Earlier we learned how important it is to grow in our knowledge of God's Word so we can become more like Jesus, our living example given to us on earth. When we learn the Scriptures and what God has to say to us, we begin to grow and become strengthened to do His work and live godly lives. This is all done through the power of the Holy Spirit living inside of us as believers.

➤ **How do we know if we're growing more like Jesus?** (Answers might include: His fruit will show up in our lives like love, goodness, self-control; our hearts will change and we will act differently than the world; we hear His voice and know He is teaching us each time we read the Bible, etc.)

**Let's be clear. We can't just be good or do the right thing on our own. Oh, we can do that for a while, but eventually we go back to doing our own thing. What our Bible verse today tells us is that God works within us. It's His power that teaches us to understand what we read in the Bible, and it's His power in us that changes our hearts and our minds to live godly lives.**

**Let's make a mobile craft to help us remember all the ways we can grow to be more like Jesus. Ask your siblings or parents to join you in making their own mobile, too! Get creative with the things you find around the house that can be turned into different types of mobiles.**

Have your child(ren) find extra hangers in the closets. Any hanger will do. Have them cut apart paper plates, cardstock, or construction paper into random pieces and write down a different way God helps us grow on each one. Answers might include: reading the Bible; praying; having a quiet time; obeying God's Word; having the fruit of the Spirit in my life such as love, joy, peace, etc.



If your students need some ideas on what their mobile might look like, here are some links to share with them for ideas:

Spanish learning activity: Seasons

<https://spanish4kiddos.com/spanish-learning-activity-seasons/>

Shabby Chic Valentine's Day Mobile Tutorial

<https://www.thepaintedhinge.com/2014/02/13/shabby-chic-valentines-day-mobile-tutorial/>

On the back of each the shape, they can draw a picture to illustrate it. Cut different lengths of string, tying one side to the hanger and then punching a hole in each piece and tying the other side of the string to the paper plate/paper.

**This week, if you are tired of being cooped up in the same old space, brighten your room by hanging your mobile in it. Do the things you have written on it—ask your family to join you! Pray. Pray as a family and pray on your own—it's so powerful! Read the Bible. Take this time as a family to have family devotions together. Pick a few verses to read and discuss during dinner or before bed. Challenge yourselves to make this a new routine in your home.**

**Remember the Holy Spirit will teach and strengthen you as you draw close to Him. God will complete His work in you and give you everything you need to live godly lives—it's His promise.**

If you have opportunity, pray together as a group through a video conferencing platform—or write out a prayer and e-mail or text it to your students.

(We are not affiliated with and do not endorse any website or any other media listed on these pages. At the time of writing, we carefully review the referenced material and non-referenced web page content. However, due to the nature of the Internet, non-cited content on the website [including pop-ups, links, and ads] changes frequently and is beyond our control. Please review carefully before showing links in the classroom.)