

**THIS is your guide. You choose the avenue:**

- **GROWlink online 24/7:** [www.hosannalc.org/growlink](http://www.hosannalc.org/growlink)
- **GROWlink & GROWlink+ onsite:** register online: [www.hosannalc.org](http://www.hosannalc.org)

worship | GROW | impact

# GROWlink

Your personalized online or onsite guide to spiritual growth.





# GROWlink

Your  
*personalized*  
**online or onsite**  
guide to spiritual growth

*GROWlink helps you identify your spiritual season and your next best step to grow. You can explore resources in individual studies, courses, groups, mentoring, events, serving and more. Experience GROWlink online anytime or attend a Hosanna! GROWlink or GROWlink+ event. And just as your spiritual growth is ever-evolving, GROWlink resources are frequently updated so you can keep coming back for new direction. GROWlink+ goes further in-depth, identifying not only your spiritual season, but new enrichment topics every time.*

*GROWlink is your link for spiritual growth.*

This booklet is organized by seasons. In order to take full advantage of GROWlink, you'll first identify which season you're in.

The six seasons and their **GENERAL DESCRIPTIONS** are:

#### 👁️ Awakening

- Discovering the significance of God in my life, perhaps for the first time.

#### 👥 Connecting

- Desire to connect with others who also want to grow in their faith.

#### ➕ Strengthening

- Desire to explore my gifts in order to help others.

#### 🔄 Refining

- A time of struggling that leads to a deeper sense of God's presence and power.

#### 👊 Empowering

- Outwardly focused, secure in God's grace regardless of circumstances.

#### 🏠 Immersing

- Freedom from worldly concerns, living for Christ and others, surrendered to Him.

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Keep in mind as you discern your season and the next best steps...

#### **A FEW TRUTHS ABOUT SPIRITUAL GROWTH:**

- Spiritual growth doesn't happen apart from the Holy Spirit. Pray about the choices and see where God is leading you.
- Spiritual growth doesn't happen in isolation. Seek out other Christians for wisdom, counsel, encouragement and guidance. If you're stuck, Hosanna! Staff is here to help!

#### **A NOTE ABOUT SEASONS:**

- Spiritual growth is highly individual.
- No season will completely describe you, but one probably **best** describes you.
- All seasons are pleasing to God and there is purpose in all of them.
- There aren't "extra credit points" for being in a particular season.
- If you feel you are in between seasons, check out the season you feel you're heading into.

#### **HELPFUL TIPS and GUIDELINES regarding the 6 seasons & your next steps:**

##### **AWAKENING, CONNECTING, AND STRENGTHENING**

- Broad focus. Try a variety of resources and options.
- Onsite courses, structured learning.
- Small groups of 6-10.
- Serve within the church, with your small group or with organized outings.

##### **REFINING**

- More dependence on God than others.
- Individual resources, mentoring, Care and Prayer resources.

##### **EMPOWERING, IMMERSING**

- Narrower focus for your "ultimate contribution."
- Individualized, self-directed learning.
- Smaller groups of 2-3, mentoring or coaching.
- Impacting/serving locally or where God leads you.

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# Awakening



Discovering the significance of God in my life,  
perhaps for the first time.



# Awakening

I have discovered that God loves me and is actively involved in my life. I've heard that this awakening can be a gradual process or a rapid transformation. I understand my salvation is a gift from God that I can't earn. I am learning about the significance of what Jesus did on the cross and I am eager to read the Bible. Exploring Christianity energizes me.

- *God loves me and is involved in my life.*
- *Open to God's leading in my life.*
- *Salvation, grace, God's truth, etc. are interesting concepts.*
- *Eager to read the Bible.*
- *Ready to explore questions about Christianity and faith.*

## COURSES/EVENTS/CARE

- Alpha
- Care Ministries

## GROUPS & MENTORING

- GROUPlink
- GroupFinder
- Mentee

## BIBLE RESOURCES

- NLT Life Application Bible
- New Testament for Everyone set, N.T. Wright
- 30 Days to Understanding the Bible
- [www.biblegateway.org](http://www.biblegateway.org)
- [www.youversion.com](http://www.youversion.com)
- [www.globible.com](http://www.globible.com)

## BOOKS

- *Jesus Creed*, Scot McKnight
- *The Jesus I Never Knew*, Philip Yancey
- *Velvet Elvis*, Rob Bell
- *The Reason for God*, Tim Keller
- *Know Doubt*, John Ortberg
- *I Am a Follower*, Leonard Sweet
- *21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*, John Maxwell

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# Connecting



Desire to connect with others who also want to grow in their faith.



## Connecting

I want to connect with others so that I can grow in my faith. I sense I'll enjoy being a part of a faith community and hope to receive valuable support, guidance and a sense of belonging from learning and growing with others. I am open to receiving guidance from Christians more mature than myself, and would like to learn more about my place in the Body of Christ.

- *Desire to connect with others that also want to grow in their faith.*
- *Value support, relationships, & sense of belonging in faith community.*
- *Enjoy receiving guidance from mature Christians.*
- *Open to learning more about my role in the body of Christ.*

### COURSES/EVENTS/CARE

- Alpha
- Going Deeper
- Men's & Women's Retreats
- Women's Brunch
- Partnership
- Knowing God
- Men's Breakfast

### GROUPS & MENTORING

- GROUPlink
- GroupFinder
- Mentee

### BIBLE RESOURCES

- NLT Life Application Bible
- New Testament for Everyone set, N.T. Wright
- How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth, Fee & Stuart
- [www.biblegateway.org](http://www.biblegateway.org)
- [www.youversion.com](http://www.youversion.com)
- [www.globible.com](http://www.globible.com)

### BOOKS

- *The Life You've Always Wanted*, John Ortberg
- *Boundaries*, Henry Cloud and John Townsend
- *One. Life.* Scot Mcknight
- *11: Indispensable Relationships You Can't Be w/o*, Leonard Sweet
- *Connecting*, Larry Crabb
- *Culture of Honor*, Danny Silk
- *Community 101*, Gilbert Bielzikien
- *Simply Christian*, N.T. Wright

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# Strengthening

Desire to explore my gifts in order to help others.





## Strengthening

I am ready to make a difference in the world by identifying my spiritual gifts, and how they can be used to impact the world around me for good. I am eager to explore what unique things God might be asking me to do, and I'm excited about helping others.

- *Curious about understanding my spiritual gifts.*
- *Desire to use my gifts to serve God and help others.*
- *Receive satisfaction from making a difference in the world.*
- *Seeking what unique things God is calling me to do.*

### RESOURCES

#### COURSES/EVENTS/CARE

- Going Deeper
- Water of Life
- Marriage Course
- Learning to Hear the Voice of God
- Knowing God
- Skepsis
- Parenting Course

#### GROUPS & MENTORING

- GROUPlink
- Mentee/Mentor
- GroupFinder
- Small Group Leader

#### BIBLE RESOURCES

- NLT Life Application Bible
- New Testament for Everyone set, N.T. Wright
- Reading the Bible with Heart and Mind, Tremper Longman III
- Accordance for Mac: [www.accordancebible.com](http://www.accordancebible.com)
- Logos for PC: [www.logos.com](http://www.logos.com)

#### BOOKS

- *The King Jesus Gospel*, Scot McKnight
- *The Me I Want to Be*, John Ortberg
- *Spirit Wars*, Kris Vallotton
- *Surprised By Hope*, N.T. Wright
- *Living Your Strengths*, Winseman, Clifton, and Liesveld
- *Strengthen Yourself in the Lord*, Bill Johnson
- *When Helping Hurts*, Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert
- *Discover Your Spiritual Gifts*, C. Peter Wagner
- *The Making of a Leader*, Robert Clinton

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A time of struggling that leads to a deeper sense of God's presence and power.



# Refining





## Refining

The refining season has shaken me to the core. What used to seem so clear is now riddled with doubt and confusion. I am experiencing profound trials and have difficulty feeling God's presence. I want relief from this. Why did this have to happen? And yet...You are God.

- *Struggling to feel God's presence.*
- *Experiencing profound trials.*
- *Faith is riddled with more questions than previously.*
- *Clarity is replaced with confusion and a need to simply trust God.*

### RESOURCES

#### COURSES/EVENTS/CARE

- Water of Life
- SOZO
- Care Ministries
- Healthy Relationships
- Rebuilders
- Financial Peace

#### GROUPS & MENTORING

- Mentee
- The Well

#### BIBLE RESOURCES

- *New Testament for Everyone set, N.T. Wright*

#### BOOKS

- *Answering God: The Psalms as Tools for Prayer, Eugene Peterson*
- *Where is God When it Hurts?, Phillip Yancey*
- *God is Closer Than You Think, John Ortberg*
- *Jesus Wants to Save Christians, Rob Bell*
- *Shame and Grace, Lewis Smedes*
- *Evil and the Justice of God, N.T. Wright*
- *Who Switched Off My Brain?, Caroline Leaf*
- *Freedom Tools, Andy Reese*
- *Escaping the Matrix, Greg Boyd*
- *Experiencing The Father's Embrace, Jack Frost*

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# Empowering

Outwardly focused, secure in God's grace regardless of circumstances.





## Empowering

I am told that often one experiences the Empowering season after an intense season of Refining. I have learned to trust God and with my security in His hands, I am freed up to do His will. I want to be obedient to what He is calling me to do, no matter how trivial, or (alternately), out of my comfort zone it seems. I'm not in it for the recognition. It's not about me.

- Obedient to God's calling on my life.
- Begin to live out my passion area.
- Surrendered to God's purpose. Willing to sacrifice worldly comforts.
- Empowered with my gifts and willing to serve without recognition.
- Outwardly focused, secure in God's grace regardless of circumstances.

### COURSES/EVENTS/CARE

- Skepsis
- Learning to Hear the Voice of God

### GROUPS & MENTORING

- Mentor
- Small Group Leader
- The Well

### BIBLE RESOURCES

- New Testament for Everyone set, N.T. Wright
- Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary OT & NT

### BOOKS

- *The Next Christians*, Gabe Lyons
- *Culture of Honor*, Danny Silk
- *The Celebration of Discipline*, Richard Foster
- *Simply Jesus*, N.T. Wright
- *Repenting of Religion*, Greg Boyd
- *The Heart of Racial Justice*, Brenda Salter McNeill
- *Humilitas*, John Dickson
- *Slavery to Sonship*, Jack Frost
- *A Community Called Atonement*, Scot McKnight
- *When Heaven Invades Earth*, Bill Johnson
- *Wild Goose Chase*, Mark Batterson
- *Being With God*, Graham Cooke

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Freedom from worldly concerns, living for Christ and others, surrendered to Him.



# Immersing





## Immersing

I have learned to live for Him and Him alone. I am willing to put others' needs ahead of my own. I can't quite describe how it works, but Jesus directs my steps, and I will do whatever He asks because of His love for me. I realize I don't quite fit in with culture, but it doesn't concern me. I feel sometimes like God has given me his heart for the broken, lost and hurting. I'll do what I can with God's help.

- *Compassion for others drives my motivations.*
- *Drawing my strength from Him.*
- *Daily surrender and obedience.*
- *Freedom from worldly concerns, living for Christ & others, surrendered to Him.*

It's challenging to recommend resources for the Immersing season. You've experienced incredible lifelong transformation and learning. Some suggestions:

### BOOKS

- *Walking in the Dust of Rabbi Jesus*, Lois Tverberg
- *The Jesus Way*, Eugene Peterson
- *One Thousand Gifts*, Ann Voskamp
- *Surprised by Hope*, N.T. Wright
- *Experiencing Father's Embrace*, Jack Frost
- *The Unshakable Kingdom & Unchanging Person*, E. Stanley Jones
- *Chasing the Dragon*, Jackie Pullinger
- *The Hole in the Gospel*, Richard Stearns

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9600 163rd ST WEST · LAKEVILLE, MN 55044

952-435-3332 · [WWW.HOSANNALC.ORG](http://WWW.HOSANNALC.ORG)



QUESTIONS? Contact:  
952-898-9416 or [growlink@hosannalc.org](mailto:growlink@hosannalc.org)