

*becoming*



*vGroup Study*



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Becoming: vGroup Study

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# THE JOURNEY OF BECOMING

This week, Vintage Church NOLA launched a brand-new teaching series—Becoming. We looked at 2 Peter 1:3–11 and who God wants us to become. While we focus on who we are becoming in our worship gatherings, we are going to focus on how we are becoming in our vGroups.

In our first Becoming vGroup video, Pastor Dustin Turner equated our spiritual journey of becoming to growing up or our human development.

- How is growing up like a journey? (Hint: Just like an everyday journey has different parts or phases (a beginning, a middle, and an end), on our spiritual journeys, we go through different phases from newborn to mature adult.)
- Think back on the different phases of human development. What are some characteristics of people when they are in these particular phases of maturing? (i.e., infant-child-young adult-mature adult)
- As we think about these developmental phases, what kind of similarities are there to our spiritual development? What can we learn about our spiritual development from our physical development?

While Scripture often talks about our spiritual development of becoming, one particular passage that explains some tools as well as the goal of becoming is Ephesians 4:11–16.

*<sup>11</sup>And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,*

Ephesians 4:11–12.

- Who has God given us to help us on our journey? Who were these individuals in the early church?



- Why did God give us apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds, and teachers?
- If Paul starts out by telling you that God has companions already set up for this journey, what can we surmise about how this journey is meant to be experienced? How might you need help? How might others need your help?

*<sup>13</sup>until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup>so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. <sup>15</sup>Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.*

Ephesians 4:13–16

- What does Paul say is the point of “equipping the saints for the work of ministry, for the building up the body of Christ?”

The point of building up the body of Christ is so that we “attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”

- What do these phrases mean and how do they relate to our spiritual development?
- How does Paul portray childishness in v. 14? What does this tell us about the dangers we face on our journey to spiritual maturity?
- According to v. 15, what is the end goal of our journey? How can we measure our progress toward that goal?

Looking at these verses we know that we are on a path to maturity. This path might not be a linear one. We can grow, we can atrophy (i.e., get smaller), or even hit roadblocks and have dark nights when we feel like we have lost our way. Wherever we are at, we know that we should not stay static. We should grow into the likeness of Christ.

- Where do you think you are on your spiritual journey of becoming?
  
- How do you feel about your spiritual journey? Are you excited, discouraged, expectant, anxious, etc? Why do you feel that way?
  
- Think about 1–2 action steps you need to take to move forward on your spiritual journey of becoming. What are those steps and how will you implement those in your life?