

## *Please Mind the Gap*

Sermon 2 (23/5/2021) | Peter 1:13-2:10

Title: Be a safe escalator user

Theme: Growing in our new identity (2:2)

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### **Outline**

#### Introduction

#### Walking through the text (I Peter 1:13-2:10)

- A. Therefore
- B. Therefore
- C. But

#### How do we apply this?

- A. The “t\_\_\_\_\_” idea.
  - a. The Christian life is intended to b\_\_\_\_\_ with salvation and grow into a fuller, more mature relationship with God.
  - b. Our walk with Christ involves various stages representing continual and l\_\_\_\_\_ growth
    - i. Y\_\_\_\_\_ believer
    - ii. Maturing believer
    - iii. M\_\_\_\_\_ believer
  - c. Our AIC core values are a practical way of looking at maturity as a follower of Jesus.
    - i. **Glorifying God** Above all else, everything we do is for the glory of God. (Rom. 11:33-12:2)
    - ii. **Prayerful Dependence** We will look to God for His perspective, His direction, and His enabling at all times and for all things. (Phil 4:6-7)
    - iii. **Biblical Teaching** Relevant Biblical teaching can transform, change, and inspire us to live obedient lives. (Josh 1:8; Heb 4:12)
    - iv. **Reaching Lost People** Understanding God values all people, we will seek to fulfil the Great Commission by participating in sharing the good news at home, in our city, and around the world. (Luke 19:10; II Cor. 5:20; Matt 28:19-20)
    - v. **Authentic Community** We desire biblical fellowship by building community through loving and grace-filled relationships. This is where we learn and practice what it means to live out our calling to be disciples. (John 13:34-35; Acts 2:42-47)
    - vi. **Sacrificial Living** We will embrace the vision of our local church by serving, utilizing our spiritual gifting, and giving in a generous and faithful manner. (II Cor. 8:1-5; I Cor. 12:1-31; John 13:1-17; Romans 12:1)
    - vii. **Faith-Filled Living** God calls us to take continual steps of faith which often involves change. (Hebrews 11:6)

- d. As f\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus we are to be continually growing in each of these (and other) biblical values.
- e. Where are you in your growth as a Christ follower?
  - i. Have you been introduced to the concept described in the core value?
  - ii. Are you learning and accepting the truth of the core value?
  - iii. Are you reorganizing your life to align with the principles described in the core value?
  - iv. Are you intentionally coaching/mentoring/walking with someone else so that they grow?
  - v. Are you intentionally facilitating/coaching/mentoring others who are in turn teaching others to grow?

B. But...

1. Indicates a c\_\_\_\_\_
2. Key verse to memorize I Peter 2:9 ***But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.***

**Be a safe escalator user, hold the handrail,  
and don't keep your eyes only on your mobile phone.**

### Questions for Thought and Discussion

1. Listen to either "Refiners Fire" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQclw7Ptxfc>) or "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IES4eLHLLyE>). How do these songs help us understand that Christians are to be set apart for God?
2. Explain how the word "therefore" indicates that as a Christ follower we are to have continual growth in our relationship with God?
3. What makes maturing in our relationship with God difficult?
4. Look at each of the AIC core values and identify some next steps in your spiritual growth as a Christ follower. Which statement below corresponds to your growth in each of the core values? What will be your next step to grow in one of the core values? (Find core values on page 1)
  - a. Have you been introduced to the concept described in the core value?
  - b. Are you learning and accepting the truth of the core value?
  - c. Are you reorganizing your life to align with the principles described in the core value?
  - d. Are you intentionally coaching/mentoring/walking with someone else so that they grow?
  - e. Are you intentionally facilitating/coaching/mentoring others who are in turn teaching others to grow?
5. Read the book of 1 Peter (Next week we will look at: I Peter 2:11-4:11)
6. Memorize I Peter 2:9
7. Watch the introduction to 1 Peter (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WhP7AZQlzCg>)