Introduction

It’s hard to beat a good Christmas movie.

- A Christmas Carol
- It’s a Wonderful Life
- A Charlie Brown Christmas

What if we miss the message?

That is the concern of the writer of Hebrews.

I. Growth is expected in the Christian life.

The problem with the Hebrews is they were slow to learn.

One of the marks of a Christian is a hunger to know God.

This is an area where many churches have failed. We’ve given the impression that it is okay to just come to church, sit in the pew and go home unchanged, when what Jesus calls us to is revolutionary.

II. Spiritual growth requires an effort on our part.

How do we grow?

It is by hearing and obeying the word of God.

“Solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.”

What are the elementary truths that are foundational to our faith?

- Repentance – turning from sin.
- Faith – turning to God.
- Baptism – understanding its meaning and purpose.
- Laying on of hands – prayer.
- Resurrection
- Eternal judgment.
We need to keep growing in our faith. No one else can do it for you.

III. Growth is a sign of spiritual life.
If there is no growth and no fruit, there’s no life.

Four views on Hebrews 6:4-8

- It refers to Christians who can lose their salvation. The Arminian view.
- It is written to believers as a warning, but because they can’t lose their salvation it is hypothetical.
- It refers to professing Christians whose falling away shows that they were never saved in the first place.
- It is written as a warning to believers, but what is lost is not salvation, but eternal reward.

I believe it is a real warning written to the church, but only God knows the heart of every person. And he doesn’t want you to miss out on heaven.

Conclusion
Be diligent to the very end.
Keep growing in your faith.
Make your hope sure.
Open your heart and receive Jesus as your Savior and Lord.