

1 04SM/ADCOM/GCDO04AC to JP-04AC+05GCS

2
3 146-04GS GROWING IN CHRIST? NEW FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF

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5 The 2004 Spring Meeting reviewed the Proposal for a New Fundamental Belief?
6 Growing in Christ as well as a procedure to be followed in processing this document, and voted
7 to bring it back to the 2004 Annual Council for final discussion before it is presented to the 2005
8 General Conference Session.

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10 RECOMMENDED, To refer to the 2005 General Conference Session the following revised
11 draft for the proposed New Fundamental Belief—Growing in Christ, which reads as follows:

12
13 Growing in Christ

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15 By His cross Jesus triumphed over the forces of evil. He who subjugated the demonic
16 spirits during His earthly ministry has broken their power and made certain their ultimate doom.
17 Jesus' victory gives us victory over the evil forces that still seek to control us, as we walk with
18 Him in peace, joy, and assurance of His love. Instead of evil forces, the Holy Spirit now dwells
19 within us and empowers us. Committed to Jesus as our Saviour and Lord, we are set free from
20 the burden of past deeds and our former life with its darkness, fear of evil powers, ignorance, and
21 meaninglessness. In this new freedom in Jesus, we are called to grow into the likeness of His
22 character, as we commune with Him daily in prayer, feeding on His Word, meditating on it and
23 on His providence, singing His praises, gathering together for worship, and participating in the
24 mission of the church. As we give ourselves in loving service to those around us and in
25 witnessing to His salvation, His constant presence with us sanctifies every moment and every
26 task. (Ps 1:1-2; 23:4; Col. 1:13-14; 2:6, 14-15; 1 Thess. 5:23; 2 Peter 2:9; 3:18, 2 Cor. 3:17, 18;
27 Phil. 3:7-14; 1 Thess. 5:16-18; Matt. 20:25-28; John 20:21; Gal. 5:22-25; 1 John 4:4.)