Date: 10/21/17

Title: Measuring Up

Theme: God’s plan is for you to grow more like Jesus each day.

Object: Measuring tape

Text: Eph 4:14-15 Then we will no longer be infants…Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

Do you know that God has a plan for your life?

This verse tells us about God’s plan for your life.

God doesn’t want you to remain a little baby Christian.

He wants you to grow “in every way more and more like Jesus.”

How many think they’re growing today?

How big were you when you were born? (Most babies are only about 20 inches tall.)

Would you like to see how long 20 inches is? [Use tape measure to show 20 inches.]

Who would like to get measured to see how tall you are now? [Measure each child against wall. Compliment them on how much they have grown since they were born.]

You are all way bigger than when you were born.

That was God’s plan when He created people: we start out little when we’re born, but we grow big and strong as we get older. (And then when we get real old, we start to shrink a little bit.)

Now the Bible tells us about an even more important plan that God has for you.

We all start out as baby Christians.

When we first trust Jesus as our Savior and ask Him to forgive our sins, He comes into our hearts and makes us brand new baby Christians.

Then Jesus gives us His Holy Spirit to live in our hearts to show us how to live in a way that pleases God.

The Bible calls this being born of the Spirit or being born again.

Then God’s plan for you as a Christian is to grow…not taller or fatter…but grow to be more like Jesus every day.

So Jesus is kind of like this tape measure.

To see how much we’re growing as Christians, we need to compare our lives to Jesus’ life.

Are you becoming more like Jesus every day?

Can you say you are more like Jesus now that you were a year ago?

I hope so; because that’s God plan for your life.

He wants you to love God as Jesus did; he wants you to love others as Jesus did; he wants you to be kind and obedient and unselfish; he wants you to do what Jesus would do.

Now let’s say that a baby Christian is 20 inches on this tape measure.

How much do I have to grow to be like Jesus?

Well, let’s see where the end of the tape measure is. [Find end at 25 ft.]

So we have a lot of growing to do to become like Jesus.

And the truth is, we’ll never be as good as Jesus even if we live to be 100.

But that’s ok. Because when you trust in Jesus and your sins are forgiven, God looks at you as if you’re are as good as Jesus even if you’re not!

But growing to be like Jesus is really important because it shows others how good and kind and loving God is, and that’s the way we tell God that we love Him.

How many would like to grow more and more like Jesus starting right now?