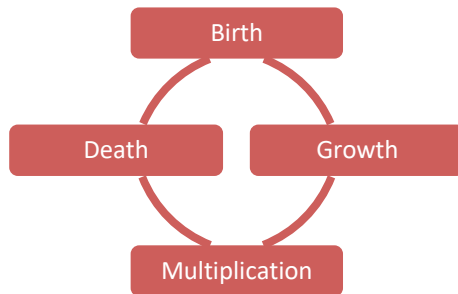


1 | CIRCLE OF LIFE



Almost everyone goes through certain, recurring life experiences. This is independent of your profession, culture and position. We call this the "circle of life."

Life begins with birth and ends with physical death. In nature, we see this cycle in many ways. The principle we see in nature can be divided into four phases: birth, growth, multiplication and death.



Example Abraham

Leaves homeland - **birth**

Abram obeys and grows in walk with God - **growth**

Promise of a son - **multiplication**

Abram must send Ishmael away - **death**

God the Father did not want Abram to fulfill His promise himself. He had to die to his own understanding and efforts so that what God wanted to do deep inside him could happen.

Inner person of Abram commits to God's words- **birth**

Abram is given a new name - **growth**

Abraham and Sarah have a son - **multiplication**

God asks Abraham to sacrifice his son - **death**

Jesus

God's Spirit causes Mary to become pregnant - **birth**

Jesus grows in knowing the Father - **growth**

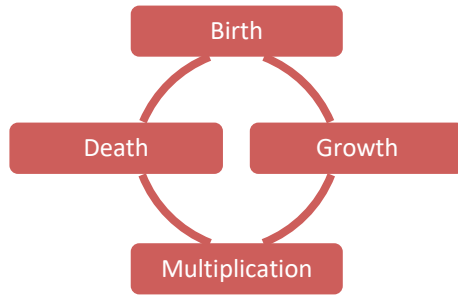
Jesus is filled with the Spirit - **birth**

Jesus learns much about the Father and Scripture and applies it in the desert - **growth**

Jesus calls his disciples and teaches them - **multiplication**

Jesus dies making the Father accessible to all - **death**

EXERCISE:



-Do you see in your life certain experiences that keep repeating themselves? Experiences that result in things you really love to do and want to accomplish not really breaking through anyway, so you have to start over and over again at- new? Do you recognize that?

-Take time to identify the different stages in your life, this helps you develop into the person the Father intended for our birth.

Birth

When was the first time an experience was started? How did you recognize this?

Growth

In what did you see growth in your life? What did you need to do or refrain from doing for this?

Multiplication

Did you see multiplication?

Death

What ideas, thoughts or other things did you have to die to? What have you had to lay down?

-Are there deep desires and dreams that have not yet been fulfilled, but that you would like to work on?

-Do you see recurring problems, weaknesses, obstacles that prevent you from achieving your dream yet?

PRINCIPLE 1

God made all life so that it can grow and multiply. Dying is a part of this process. You too must die to your own strength in order to come into God's full strength. Where your "I Am" and God's "I Am" meet, you come to the destiny God has woven into your DNA.

