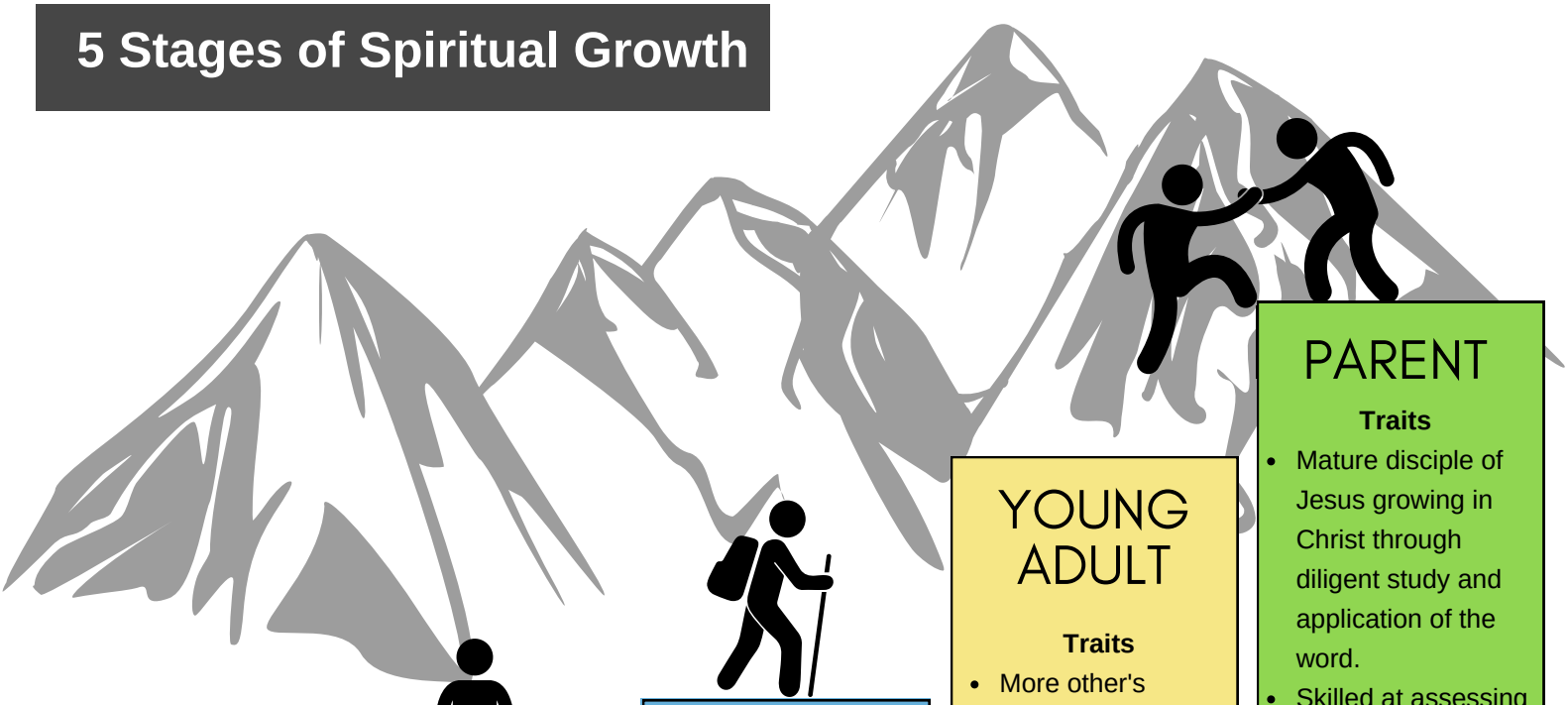
5 Stages of Spiritual Growth



DEAD

Traits

- Broken and dead in sin.
- Lost - not aware of it.
- Living based on feelings

SPIRITUALLY DEAD: People in this stage have not yet accepted Christ as Lord and Savior. They may completely reject God, or they may be seeking God. They may be “spiritual”, and they may even claim to know God or be a Christian. In reality, they are their own god.

INFANT

Traits

- Confused about what truth is.
- Torn between competing priorities.
- Lacks discipline and commitment.
- Focused on self.

SPIRITUAL INFANT: In this stage, people have accepted Christ, but haven’t moved much past that point. They can be new believers, or they might be stagnant, longtime Christians. Life is generally all about them and their needs.

CHILD

Traits

- Growing in love for God.
- Building relationships with others.
- Developing spiritual disciplines like Bible study & prayer
- Giving time and finances
- Exploring discipleship environments: D Groups / Small Groups

SPIRITUAL CHILD: In this stage, people are growing in their relationship with God, and are also beginning to grow in their relationship with other Christians. They are applying God’s Word in their lives and allowing others to walk beside them in their journey following Christ. However, it’s still mostly about them.

YOUNG ADULT

Traits

- More other's centered.
- Understanding spiritual gifts.
- Beginning to see themselves as ministers.
- Becoming more focused on growing God's kingdom through evangelism and discipleship
- Actively seeking ways to serve the church and others

YOUNG ADULT: In this stage, people are making a big shift from being self-centered to more others-centered. They’re beginning to understand their role as a giver, rather than a taker. They are ministering to others, putting others first. They are being doers of the Word.

PARENT

Traits

- Mature disciple of Jesus growing in Christ through diligent study and application of the word.
- Skilled at assessing other people's spiritual needs
- Understand their role as one who MUST invest in others
- Coaching others to become disciple makers
- Actively discipling and leading other to Jesus

SPIRITUAL PARENT: The Parent has a solid understanding of God’s Word and an abiding relationship with the Father. They are living out God’s Word in their lives daily. They are others-centered and God-dependent. They are able to reproduce mature disciples of Christ by inviting others to follow them as they follow Christ.