

Christian Maturity

1 Corinthians 14

Introduction: What does it mean to be a mature Christian?

Knowing Greek and Hebrew, a Christian 50 years, leader?

Maturity literally means "to be fully developed."

You must grow, develop

What Christian maturity is not:

Bible knowledge alone (example of Pharisees)

Acting better than others

I. Some Ways God Wants You To Be Immature

A. Immature to sin

Genesis 3:7 Adam in the Garden ate fruit eyes opened

Proverbs 5:8 stay away from the seductive woman

B. Immature to worldliness

1 John 2:15-17

C. Immature to Hatred of People

Cain Gen. 4:7, King Saul 1 Samuel 18, Pharisees: blinded

II. Some Ways That Show Your Spiritual Maturity

Five Qualities of Maturity

1. A Stability: not pushed by every wave of doctrine/circumstance

Ephesians 4:14. we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting

1. Endure Suffering

Isaiah 53:3 He is despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrow and acquainted with grief

Romans 5:3-4 And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, [b]character; and character, hope

2. Knowing Right From Wrong

Hebrews 5:14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, *that is*, those who by reason of [b]use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil

3. Able to teach first principles

Hebrews 5:12 By this time you should be able to teach but you need to have someone to teach you first principles.

You need milk and not solid food

4. Producing fruit in others

1 Cor. 3:6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase

John 15 Jesus is the true vine: we produce in him

5. Understand deeper truths of Scripture

Psalm 119:18 Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law

1 Corinthians 8:1 We know that we all have knowledge.

Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies