

# A Blueprint for Christian Maturity

Ephesians 4:14–15

# A Blueprint for Christian Maturity

As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

**Ephesians 4:14–16**

# A Blueprint for Christian Maturity

I. Growing out of disastrous, immature doctrinal instability (v. 14)

# Growing out of disastrous, immature doctrinal instability

As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

**Ephesians 4:14**

# Growing out of disastrous, immature doctrinal instability

And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ.

**1 Corinthians 3:1**

# Growing out of disastrous, immature doctrinal instability

Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be infants, but in your thinking be mature.

**1 Corinthians 14:20**

# Growing out of disastrous, immature doctrinal instability

But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.

**James 1:6**

# Growing out of disastrous, immature doctrinal instability

These are the men who are hidden reefs in your love feasts when they feast with you without fear, caring for themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted...

**Jude 12**



# Growing out of disastrous, immature doctrinal instability

For speaking out arrogant words of vanity they entice by fleshly desires, by sensuality, those who barely escape from the ones who live in error,

**2 Peter 2:18**

# **Growing out of disastrous, immature doctrinal instability**

You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness,

**2 Peter 3:17**

# Growing out of disastrous, immature doctrinal instability

We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

**1 John 4:6**

# Growing out of disastrous, immature doctrinal instability

Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, and for pay they have rushed headlong into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

**Jude 11**

# A Blueprint for Christian Maturity

- I. Growing out of disastrous, immature doctrinal instability (v. 14)
- II. Growing up into truthful, loving doctrinal stability (v. 15)

# Growing up into truthful, loving doctrinal stability

but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ,

**Ephesians 4:15**

# Growing up into truthful, loving doctrinal stability

In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,

**Ephesians 1:13**

# Growing up into truthful, loving doctrinal stability

Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore, **HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH**, and **HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS**,

**Ephesians 6:13–14**



# Growing up into truthful, loving doctrinal stability

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

**Ephesians 5:1–2**

# Growing up into truthful, loving doctrinal stability

So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

**Colossians 3:12–14**

# Growing up into truthful, loving doctrinal stability

So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

**Colossians 3:12–14**

# Growing up into truthful, loving doctrinal stability

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

**Ephesians 4:31–32**

# Growing up into truthful, loving doctrinal stability

from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

**Ephesians 4:16**

# A Blueprint for Christian Maturity

- I. Growing out of disastrous, immature doctrinal instability (v. 14)
- II. Growing up into truthful, loving doctrinal stability (v. 15)

# A Blueprint for Christian Maturity

1. We are to develop an aggressive and curious pursuit of doctrine/theology.
2. We are to engage in theological dialogue with others in our local body of believers.
3. We are to find primary doctrinal nourishment in the ministries of the local church.
4. We are to aim our growth at being close to Jesus in fellowship and imitation.