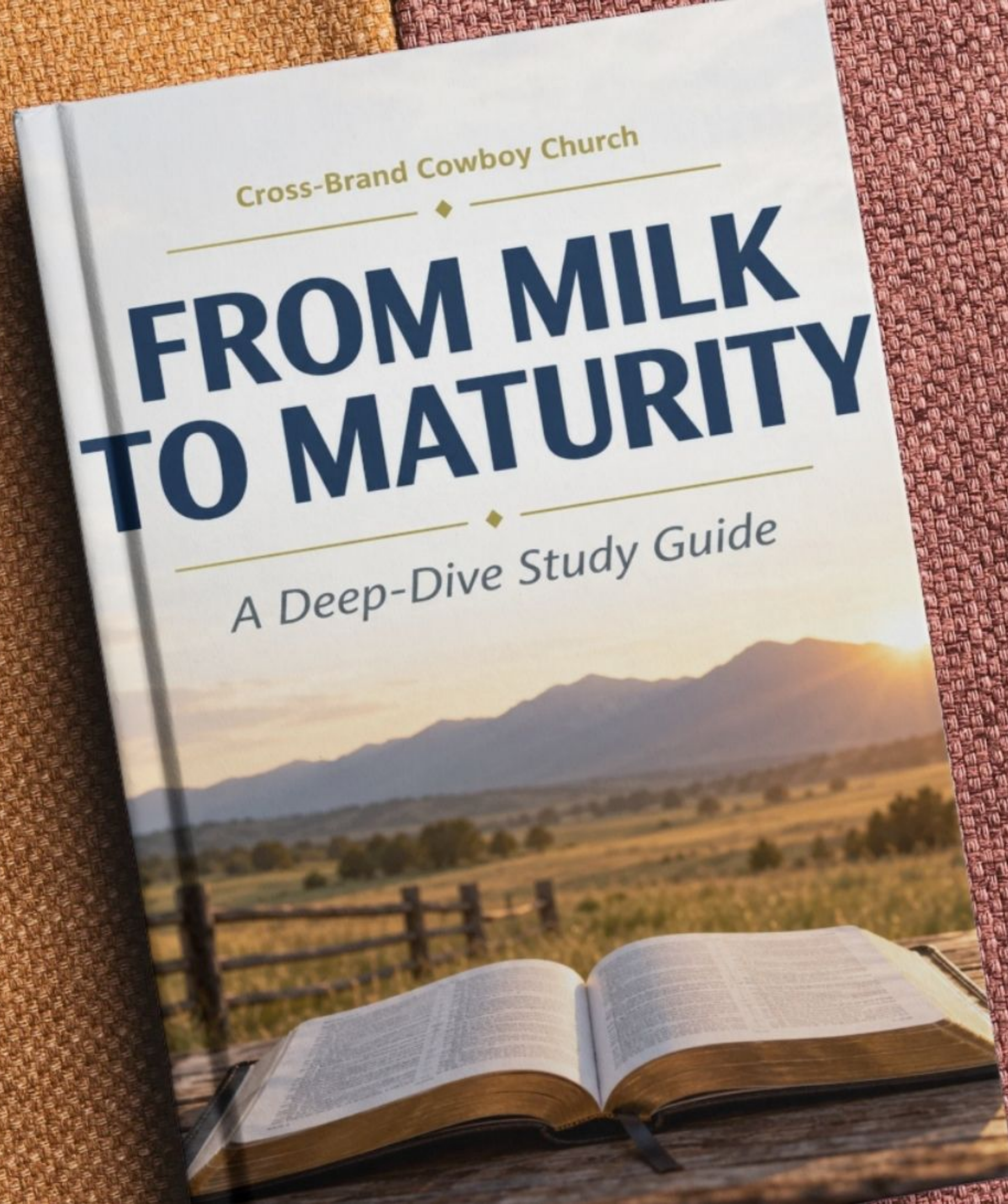


Moving from Milk to Maturity

A Biblical Call to Spiritual Growth



**Scan the Code
to Dive Deeper**



BEGINNINGS VS. GROWTH

A newborn drinking milk is healthy. A twenty-year-old on the same diet reveals a breakdown.



1 Peter 2:1-2 (CSB)

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, desire the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow up into salvation.

1 Peter 2:3 (CSB)

if you have tasted
that the Lord is good.

Have the years you spent
following Jesus actually
produced greater maturity?

01

God Expects Growth

Time and Opportunity Create Responsibility

Hebrews 5:11-12 (CSB)

We have a lot to say about this, and it is hard to explain, since you have become sluggish in hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of God's revelation. You need milk, not solid food.

Hebrews 5:13-14 (CSB)

Now everyone who lives on milk is inexperienced with the message about righteousness, because he is an infant. But solid food is for the mature—for those whose senses have been trained to distinguish between good and evil.

Hebrews 6:1-2 (CSB)

Therefore, let us leave the elementary teaching about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works, faith in God, teaching about baptisms, laying on of hands, resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

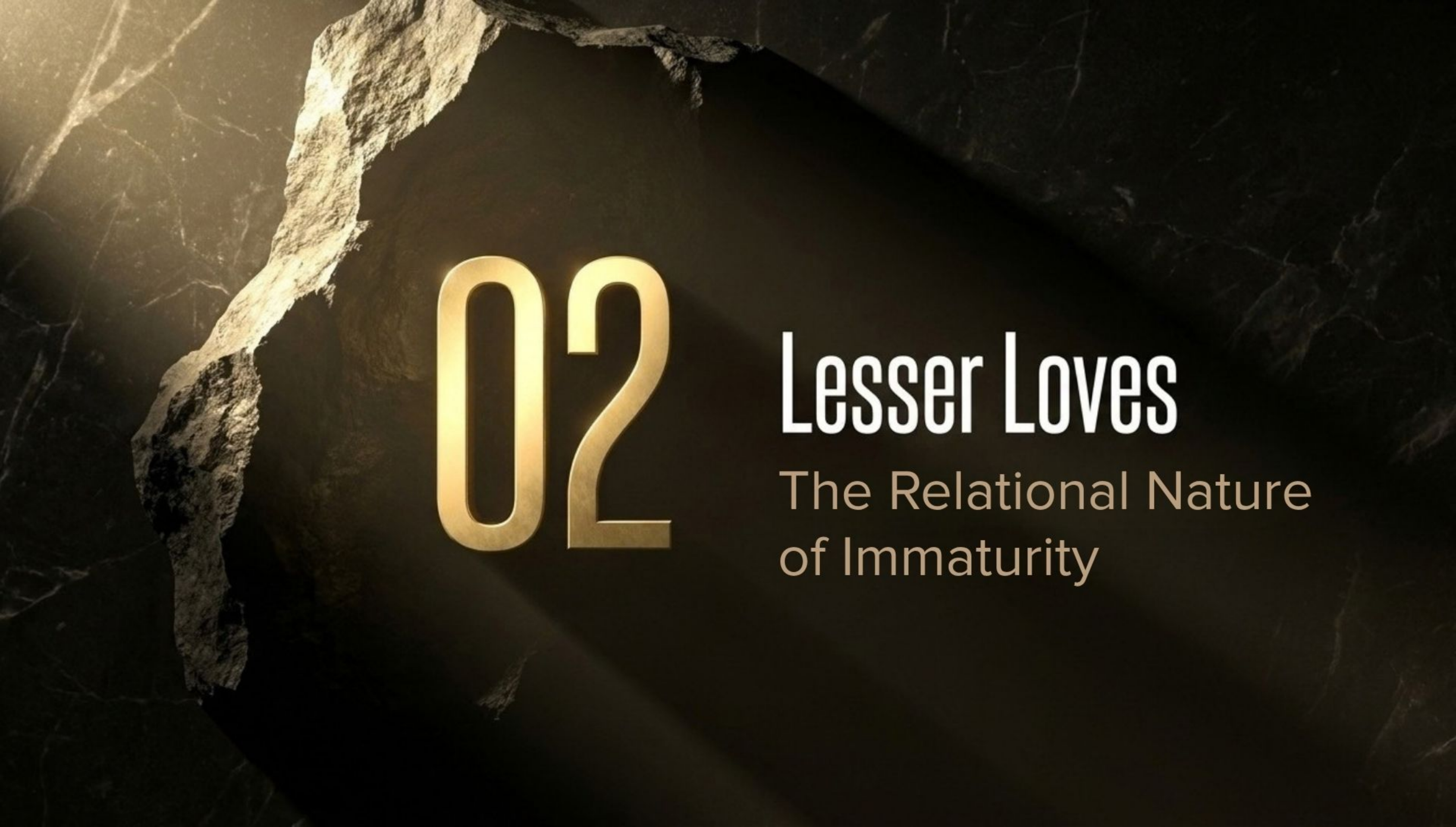
Hebrews 6:3 (CSB)

**And we will do this
if God permits.**

LONGEVITY $\neq$ MATURITY

Repeating spiritual infancy
year after year.
Exposure without practice.

Building on the foundation.
Truth received becomes
discernment practiced.



02

Lesser Loves

The Relational Nature
of Immaturity

1 Corinthians 3:1-3 (CSB)

Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh—as infants in Christ. I gave you milk to drink, not solid food, since you were not yet ready for it. In fact, you are still not ready, because you are still worldly. For since there is envy and strife among you, are you not worldly and behaving like mere humans?

1 Corinthians 3:4-5 (CSB)

For whenever someone says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not acting like mere humans? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? They are servants through whom you believed, and each has the role the Lord has given.

1 Corinthians 3:6-7 (CSB)

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.

1 Corinthians 3:8-9 (CSB)

Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his own reward according to his own labor. For we are God's coworkers; you are God's field, God's building.

COMFORT

I want Jesus to encourage me
without ever disrupting me.

FAMILIARITY

Mistaking familiarity with gospel terminology for genuine spiritual transformation.

TRIBE

Building your spiritual identity around
a preferred platform or preacher
rather than Christ.

CONTROL

Using theology to feel superior and win arguments
rather than humbling the heart.

AUTONOMY

Resisting teachability and biblical correction
with the excuse, "This is just how I am."



03

Intentional Participation

Grace Initiates, Effort Participates

2 Peter 1:3-4 (CSB)

His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. By these he has given us his precious and magnificent promises...

2 Peter 1:5-7 (CSB)

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with goodness, goodness with knowledge, knowledge with self-control, self-control with endurance with godliness, godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.

2 Peter 1:8-9 (CSB)

For if you possess these qualities and if they increase, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. The person who lacks these things is blind, shortsighted...

2 Peter 1:10-11 (CSB)

Therefore, brothers and sisters, make all the more effort to confirm your calling and election, because if you do things you will never stumble. For in this way, entry into the eternal kingdom... will be richly provided to you.



LOVE

AFFECTION

GODLINESS

ENDURANCE

SELF-CONTROL

KNOWLEDGE

GOODNESS

FAITH

04

Helping Others Grow

From Spiritual Consumer to Kingdom Contributor

Ephesians 4:11-13 (CSB)

And he himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ....

Ephesians 4:14-15 (CSB)

Then we will no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching... But speaking the truth in love, let us grow in every way into him who is the head—Christ.

Ephesians 4:16 (CSB)

From him the whole body, fitted and knitted together by every supporting ligament, promotes the growth of the body for building itself up in love by the proper working of each individual part.

SPIRITUAL CONSUMER

Requires everything
to be done for them.
Focus is on self.

KINGDOM CONTRIBUTOR

Strengthens, disciples,
and serves.
Focus is on the body.

**DESIRE
THE WORD**

**PRACTICE
OBEDIENCE**

**BECOME
LIKE CHRIST**

**LEARN
TRUTH**

**DISCERN
GOOD & EVIL**

**GIVE TO
OTHERS**

The Life Arc of Maturity

DON'T SETTLE.

We do not pursue maturity to earn God's grace; we pursue it because His grace has already taken hold of us.

