

## APPENDIX

# Maturity That Multiplies

2 Timothy 2:2

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*“What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”*

(2 Timothy 2:2)

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**Class Overview:** In this appendix lesson, we explore how spiritual maturity naturally leads to multiplication. Scripture teaches that, as we mature, we are called not only to grow and serve, but also to invest in others—teaching, encouraging, and modeling faith so that it continues beyond them. Drawing from passages such as 2 Timothy 2:2, Matthew 28:18-20, and Paul’s relational ministry, this lesson emphasizes that maturity finds its fullest expression when it is shared.

This lesson is not about programs or formal teaching roles alone. It is about influence, example, and relationships. Every mature Christian has the capacity to multiply faith by walking alongside others and helping them grow in Christ.

**Class Objectives:**

By the end of this class, you should be able to:

1. Understand that spiritual maturity is meant to be shared, not kept private.
2. Explain how Scripture presents multiplication as a natural outcome of mature faith.
3. Recognize that every mature believer can influence others through example, encouragement, and teaching.
4. Identify practical ways to invest in others’ spiritual progress in everyday relationships.
5. Commit to passing on faith so that it continues beyond ourselves.

## Introduction:

SPIRITUAL GROWTH WAS NEVER MEANT TO STOP WITH US. From the beginning, God’s work in His people has been designed to continue through them. Faith that matures but is never shared becomes stagnant, while faith that is given away continues to grow. God shapes people not only for their own transformation, but so they may strengthen others. Jesus invested in disciples who would go on to make disciples. Paul poured his life into Timothy and others, expecting them to do the same. Mature faith was always understood as something to be entrusted, not merely possessed.

This appendix lesson invites us to lift our eyes beyond personal formation and congregational service to consider spiritual multiplication. The question is no longer simply whether we are growing or serving faithfully, but whether our faith is influencing others. Maturity finds its fullest expression when it begins to reproduce itself.

Spiritual multiplication does not require a title, a platform, or perfect knowledge. It begins with willingness. It happens in everyday relationships: through conversation, example, encouragement, and shared life. God uses faithful people, not flawless ones, to carry His truth forward. This lesson is all about stewardship. What God has formed in us is meant to be passed on. When mature members of Christ's family invest in others, the church is sustained across generations, and the work of Christ continues beyond any one person or moment.

As this study concludes, we are reminded that maturity is not the finish line; it is the starting point for influence. Faith that multiplies leaves a legacy. And God invites every growing Christian to be part of that ongoing work.

## **Mature Faith is Meant to be Shared (2 Timothy 2:2)**

Paul's instruction to Timothy reveals a core assumption of the Christian life: what God forms in one brother or sister is meant to be entrusted to others. In 2 Timothy 2:2, Paul describes a chain of faith that moves from one generation to the next: truth received, lived, and passed on. Maturity is not the end of the process; it is the means by which faith continues. Paul does not tell Timothy to wait for interest or opportunity to arise naturally. Instead, he instructs him to entrust what he has learned to faithful people who will then teach others. Mature faith recognizes responsibility: not to control others, but to invest in them.

Importantly, Paul highlights faithfulness over prominence. He does not tell Timothy to seek the most talented, visible, or impressive people, but those who are *faithful*. Multiplication depends more on reliability and character than charisma. God builds lasting work through ordinary people willing to pass on what they've received. Maturity in Christ naturally spreads outward. Knowledge that is never shared stays static. Faith that is never modeled or explained remains undeveloped. Mature Christians understand that what God has taught them comes with responsibility.

Sharing faith doesn't require a formal teaching role. It happens through conversation, example, encouragement, and shared life. Mature members influence others by walking alongside them, helping them understand Scripture, make decisions, and grow in trust and obedience. Maturity that multiplies doesn't dilute faith; it deepens it. As we invest in others, our own understanding grows, our dependence on God increases, and our faith becomes more firmly rooted. God intends maturity to expand, not to end.

## **Multiplication Happens Through Relationships, Not Programs (1 Corinthians 11:1)**

In the New Testament, we consistently see spiritual multiplication as relational rather than institutional. While programs and structures can support our spiritual development, they are never the primary means by which faith is passed on. The New Testament pattern is people walking alongside others, sharing life, modeling faith, and speaking truth in everyday settings. 1 Corinthians 11:1 captures this relational dynamic when Paul tells the Corinthian church, "*Imitate me, as I also imitate Christ*" (1 Corinthians 11:1). We are to influence others by how we live, respond to difficulty, and follow Christ consistently

over time. In Philippians 4:9, Paul urges the Philippians to practice what they have learned, received, heard, and seen in him. Teaching and modeling are inseparable. What is lived out becomes transferable. Maturity multiplies when faith is visible and accessible in real life, not merely discussed in theory.

Finally, in 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8, we see this relational focus more clearly. Paul describes his ministry as sharing not only the gospel but also his own life. This kind of commitment requires presence, patience, and genuine care. Spiritual growth happens best in environments of trust and shared life. We need to move away from the common misconception that multiplication requires a formal role, curriculum, or platform. Scripture shows differently. Some of the most impactful spiritual growth occurs through conversations, hospitality, shared service, and consistent encouragement. Mature Christians multiply faith when they open their lives to others. Relationships also create the context for honesty. In trusted relationships, questions can be asked, struggles shared, and faith multiplied. Programs can gather people, but it's relationships that shape them. Maturity that grows is personal. It is based on availability rather than visibility. When we invest in relationships, faith is passed on naturally and deeply.

## **Multiplication Does Not Happen Accidentally (Matthew 28:18-20)**

Jesus' final words to His disciples in Matthew 28:18-20 reveal that making disciples involves purpose, commitment, and perseverance. The command is not merely to share information, but to help others learn to follow Christ in every area of life. This does not require perfection or expertise. It requires faithfulness. Jesus does not call us to produce results on our own, but to participate obediently in His work. Multiplication is a process—often slow, sometimes unseen, but always meaningful when entrusted to God.

In Colossians 1:28-29, Paul describes his effort to present everyone mature in Christ. His work is genuine, yet relies on God's power working through him. Multiplication requires effort, but not self-reliance. God provides the changes as we stay faithful in the task. This guards us against discouragement. Not every effort yields immediate results. Not every relationship grows quickly. Mature Christians commit to faithfulness rather than immediate outcomes. They teach, encourage, model, and pray; trusting God to work in His timing.

All of this requires humility. It means being willing to walk patiently with others, to repeat truths, to answer questions, and to let it unfold gradually. It resists the urge to rush or control the process. Mature faith understands that lasting growth comes from continued effort, not shortcuts. Maturity that multiplies is not flashy or hurried. It is faithful, relational, and Christ-centered. God uses those who are willing to invest consistently, trust His work, and pass on what they have received. Spiritual maturity finds its lasting legacy not in personal achievement but in lives that are shaped, strengthened, and sent forward in Christ.

## **For Application: Growth That Continues Beyond Us**

Spiritual maturity reaches its highest point when it's shared. God never intended progress in Christ to end with personal improvement. What He cultivates in us is meant to strengthen others. If our maturity never extends beyond ourselves, it's incomplete.

We must view this as a form of stewardship. The knowledge we acquire, the character shaped by difficult seasons, and the faith strengthened through trials—none of these are private possessions. They are entrusted to us. God works within us so that He can work through us. If we keep them to ourselves, we block what He plans to continue.

Multiplication doesn't need a title or a platform. It doesn't require perfect theology or flawless understanding. It begins with availability and faithfulness. Mature Christians multiply faith in simple ways—walking beside someone, opening Scripture together, having honest conversations, praying consistently, and modeling faithful obedience. Most of the time, it happens in everyday relationships. And that's exactly where God does some of His best work. This isn't about pressure. Not every conversation will produce results immediately. Not every investment will be obvious. Much of faithful influence happens quietly. Gradually. Sometimes unnoticed. God never asked us to judge success by visible outcomes. He asks for obedience.

Let your maturity extend outward. Seek someone to invest in. Be willing to teach what you've learned, model what you've practiced, and encourage where someone feels weak. Trust that God can use even your consistent, unremarkable faithfulness. Maturity that multiplies leaves a legacy. It ensures that faith doesn't end with just one generation, one congregation, or one life. As God uses us to shape others, His work continues — steadily, faithfully — until Christ is fully formed in His people.

## Memory Verse and Weekly Challenge

### Memory Verse:

*"What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."* — 2 Timothy 2:2 (CSB)

### Weekly Challenge:

This week, identify one person you can invest in spiritually. This may be a newer brother or sister, a struggling Christian, a younger person in the faith, or someone who needs encouragement. Pray for discernment, then take one concrete step to share what God has been forming in you—through conversation, Scripture, prayer, or example. Do not aim for perfection or quick results. Commit instead to faithfulness, trusting God to use your investment to strengthen and grow others in His time.

## For Reflection

1. Why is spiritual immaturity incomplete if it is never shared with others? How does the Word challenge the assumption that growth is purely personal?

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2. What examples from your own life show how faith has been passed on through relationships rather than formal programs?

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3. What fears or hesitations might keep you from investing in others' spirituality? How does the Word address these concerns?

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4. How can everyday actions, conversation, encouragement, hospitality, and prayer, become tools for spiritual multiplication?

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5. Who is one person God may be calling you to invest in at this stage of life, and what is one faithful step you can take this week to help them grow?

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