

Practical Ecclesiology Series: Spiritual Maturity

Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 02.06.23



I. Incentives

Key Truth: Opportunities To Connect, Grow, And Serve

II. The Meaning Of Maturity

Walking By The Spirit Galatians 5:16-17

Truth & Training Hebrews 5:14

III. Forum For Growth

Ephesians 4:11-14

IV. Outcomes

Mid-Week Devotion

 (Take time to pray & respond to the following)

Incentives are typically used to motivate action, stimulate emotion, and direct thoughts. It is likely that you have subconsciously and instinctively responded to the appeal of some kind of incentive today. When it comes to making decisions, human beings are hard-wired to consider the incentives involved. This is true even in serious matters such as personal development, relationships, and spiritual growth. You need to grow. If you are not growing, you are withering.

The local church plays a vital role in the spiritual growth of its members. The fellowship and consistency of a Bible-believing and teaching church is the ideal environment for cultivating spiritual growth. In the community of Christian family we receive opportunities to connect, grow, and serve. As each part of the local church exercises their God-given gifts and abilities, the whole family benefits. Christians should “grow up” as they grow together.

Spiritual maturity is not a victory that is gained in a single moment. It is the incrementally gained condition of a sanctified follower of Christ. With maturity comes the wisdom and experience of knowing when to speak and when to be silent, when to act and when to wait.

Spiritual maturity is difficult because the desires of the flesh compete with those of the Spirit. How are you experiencing this conflict right now? Are you aware of the need to discern good from evil in your day-to-day life? Are you actively seeking exposure to truth and opportunities to be trained in righteousness? Are you putting godly wisdom and knowledge to work by serving and leading for His glory?

Prayerfully ask God to give you a desire to grow in spiritual maturity. Ask Him to reveal areas of resistance or hesitancy in your heart. Consider the role God has for you in the local church and how your service in His name can be an opportunity to grow and to bless others. Conclude your prayer by thanking the Lord for being your Savior and for leading you in becoming more mature.