

Philippians: Growing Into Maturity

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Jesse Berthold / May 10, 2023



GROWING INTO MATURITY

Philippians 1:3-11 (NLT) 3 Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. 4 Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, 5 for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. 6 And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns. 7 So it is right that I should feel as I do about all of you, for you have a special place in my heart. You share with me the special favor of God, both in my imprisonment and in defending and confirming the truth of the Good News. 8 God knows how much I love you and long for you with the tender compassion of Christ Jesus. 9 I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. 10 For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's

return. 11 May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God.

Paul prayed for two specific things...

- **First... Paul prayed that their love would overflow more and more...**

- **Verse 9a... I pray that your love will overflow more and more...**

- **Second... Paul prayed that they would keep on growing in knowledge and understanding...**

- **Verse 9b... and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding...**

Verse 10 Paul For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return.

Why did Paul pray this prayer?

- 1. Paul said, it's possible to stop loving...**

- 2. So that they will continue to grow in knowledge and understanding...**

Hebrews 5:11-14 (NLT) There is much more we would like to say about this, but it is difficult to explain, especially since you are spiritually dull and don't seem to listen. 12 You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God's word. You are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food. 13 For someone who lives on milk is still an infant and doesn't know how to do what is right. 14 Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong.

1 Peter 2:2 (NLT) Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, 3 now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness.

Verses 9-11... I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and

that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. 10 For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return. 11 May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God.

1 Peter 2:1 (NLT) So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech.

Psalm 139:23-24 (NLT) Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. 24 Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

1 Peter 2:2 (NLT) Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation...

Psalm 12:6 (ESV) The words of the LORD are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.

Proverbs 30:5 (NLT) Every word of God proves true...

Peter Said in 2 Peter 3:18 (ESV) But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Peter said... 1 Peter 2:2 Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. kindness.

Psalm 42:1-3 (NLT) As the deer longs for streams of water, so I long for you, O God. 2 I thirst for God, the living God. When can I go and stand before him? 3 Day and night I have only tears for food, while my enemies continually taunt me, saying, "Where is this God of yours?"

Psalm 103:5 TPT "You satisfy my every desire with good things. You've supercharged my life so that I soar again like a flying eagle in the sky"