

Maturity: Reaching full growth or development



Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 13:11, “When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.” We grow and mature physically and emotionally, but also should mature spiritually. The writer of Hebrews said, “But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.” We are admonished to grow and mature individually, and as a couple. The mature Christian understands deeper truths of God’s Word and applies the Word in their daily life. Integrity and good character should be evident in the mature Christian’s life and they also demonstrate their love for Christ through loving actions.

Couples will grow, mature, and become more like Christ as they face both the joys of life and the adversity in life. Pastor Gary Inrig wrote, “A marriage needs to do more than endure, it needs to grow and mature. Time alone will not strengthen a marriage.” Working together as a team to meet the challenges of life brings a couple together and shapes their lives individually and as a couple. These challenges are used by God to build a couple in maturity as they persevere and trust in Him.

Maturity in the believer’s life does not just happen, we must be purposeful about growing in our relationship with the Lord and with each other as husband and wife. Praying, worshiping, and studying the Bible together builds a couple’s relationship with the Lord and each other. Individuals might grow and mature in the Lord without their spouse, but the marriage relationship will lack spiritual intimacy if they are not growing together. Are you maturing in your relationship with the Lord and with your spouse? Are you moving toward full growth and development? Pursue maturity, seek the Lord and His wisdom together as husband and wife.

Helpful Resources: *Fortified Marriages Resource page:* www.fortifiedmarriages.com

Articles to check out:

The Three Stages of Growth in Marriage by Dr. Wayde Goodall - family-relationships.com

What is spiritual maturity? How can I become more spiritually mature? - www.gotquestions.org