

It's Time to Grow Up

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Broadcast Dates: 11/20/23-11/21/23

Message Date: 11/13/22 ● 10:00 A.M.

Scripture References:

- Hebrews 5:9-14, *NLT*
- John 13:34, 35, *NLT*
- 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, *NLT*
- 1 Corinthians 11:1, *NLT*
- 1 John 2:6, *NLT*
- Ephesians 4:11-15, *NLT*
- John 6:28, 29, *NLT*

Summary:

The biggest issue facing the church today is one of immaturity. Although new Christians are still spiritually immature, they are not to stay that way. In the body of Christ, growth won't occur until the spiritual leaders reach a point of maturity so that they can teach the Word to others. God wants to bless us, but He needs for us to develop and mature, first, for that to happen. Signs of spiritual maturity include an ability and a willingness to forgive others and love them unconditionally; too many saved Christians haven't yet reached that point. This is an impossible goal for us unless we rely on the Holy Spirit to work in us, change us, and make us more like God. Focusing only on Jesus, who is grace, matures us.

Notes:

1. God can't teach us what we need to know if we're still spiritually immature babies.
2. Jesus loved and forgave even the people who beat and killed Him. Unconditional love is the difference between maturity and immaturity.
3. The kind of love God commands us to display and to share goes deeper than feelings or emotions; it's a decision we make. Even with a broken relationship, we can still forgive the other person and let go of bitterness and anger; this is a sign of spiritual maturity.
4. God gave us spiritual leaders to help us mature in the Word, grow, and teach others.
5. The people who say that loving and forgiving others is too hard actually don't *want* to do so. Christ is our standard for spiritual maturity. Our goal should be to be like Jesus; He is our example.

Category: spiritual growth

Keywords: grow, immaturity, immature, growth, maturity, develop, forgive, love