

The Key to Christian Maturity

Philippians 3:15-16

Big Idea: As we mature in Christ we live in harmony with one another as we grow in our understanding of who we are in Christ and how God works in us as a community to bring about Christ-likeness.

Maturity is the _____ of learning the _____ way of interacting with other human beings, on the basis of a right _____ of how we stand in relation to them.

Philippians 3:15 (ESV) 15 Let those of us who are mature *think* this way...

The Key to Maturity is Found in the Way we THINK.

Phroneo:

Two Pre-dominant ways we should view our brothers and sisters in Christ

1. Our Brothers and Sisters are _____

Philippians 3:12 (ESV) 12 Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, *because Christ Jesus has made me his own.*

1 Corinthians 3:16 (ESV) — 16 Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?

1 John 3:9 (ESV) — 9 No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God’s seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God.

We must understand that motivation for godly behavior comes from within not from without. Transformation comes as we participate with the Spirit of Christ in our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ and align God’s Word with their renewed wants and desires in the Spirit.

2. Our Brothers and Sisters are Sanctified _____

Philippians 3:15–16 (ESV) — 15 Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. **16** Only let us hold true to what we have attained.

Colossians 3:12–13 (ESV) —12 Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, **13** bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Ephesians 4:15 (ESV) — 15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

“Simul justus et peccator.” –Martin Luther

How does God reveal our faulty thinking in anything? It is through the _____ of God, committed to the _____ of God, appealing to the _____ of God in the hearts of the _____ of God by the _____ of God.

Questions to Consider

- What is maturity? How do you see maturity demonstrated in your life?
- In what ways is God calling you to view your brothers and sisters in Christ? How does this impact the way you interact with them?
- In what ways does God confront our faulty thinking? Who has God put in your life to keep you consistent with the gospel in your life?
- Have you taken responsibility for another’s joy and progress in Christ? What might this look like?

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