

MATURE CHRIST

One28 Fall Retreat



Session 1

Patience in Testing

James 1:1-4



1. The Meaning of Maturity

2. The Motives of Maturity

3. The Marks of Maturity

Session 1 – Marked By Patience in Testing



1. The Meaning of Maturity

1. Holokleros (ὁλόκληρος) – Meets expectations, Intact and Blameless.
2. Teleios (τέλειος) – Attaining an end or a purpose, Finished, Complete.

"A mature person is one who is fully taught. He or she is one who knows God's will in and through his word and is fully committed to following it. A mature person is so ingrained and grounded in the truth of God's word that he is she is not easily swayed by false doctrines."



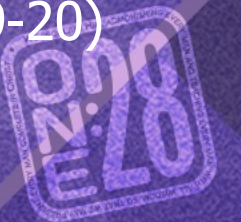
2. The Motives for Maturity

1. So that we are **Obedient** to God's word (1 Cor. 14:20,13:11; Eph. 4:14-15; Heb. 5:12-13)
2. So that our lives would **Reflect** Christ (Rom. 8:29-30; 2 Cor. 3:18; Rom. 13:14; 1Cor. 11:1)
3. So that we would be **Equipped** for every good work (2 Tim. 3:14-17)
4. So that we would be in the best position to **Disciple** others (1 Tim. 3:6)
5. So that we would make God's **Goal** for us, our own (1 Cor. 14:20; Col. 4:12)



3. The Marks of Maturity

1. Patient when Tested (1:2-4)
2. Seeks Wisdom (5-8)
3. Humble (9-11)
4. Steadfast under trials (12-16)
5. Recognizes, all gifts are from God (17)
6. Grounded in God's Word (18-21)
7. Doer of the Word (22-25)
8. Lets God's word impact everything (26-27)
9. Absence of Impartiality (2:1-13)
10. Abundance of Works (14-26)
11. Control on Tongue (3:1-12)
12. Seeks wisdom from above (13-18)
13. Submission to God (4:1-10)
14. Not involved in speaking evil (11-12)
15. Confidence in/from God (13-17)
16. Lays up treasures in Eternity (5:1-16)
17. Patience in Waiting for the Lord (7-11)
18. Careful with Words (12)
19. Man/Woman of Prayer (13-18)
20. Turns others back to God (19-20)



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Patience in Testing

1. The Call to be Patient in Testing

- Matthew 16:24; Mark 8:34; Luke 9:23
- John 16:33
- Acts 14:22b
- 2 Timothy 3:12

2. The Course to be Patient in Testing

- Expect Trials
- Count It all Joy



Why Does God Permit Trials?

- Trials are a part of God's work in the life of a believer (Rom. 8:28)
- Trials proves God's Power (Judges 7:2)
- Trials prepares us to serve God (Romans 5:3-5)
- Trials produce spiritual maturity (James 1:3-4)
- Trials pushes us to depend on God (1 Cor. 1:28-29,31)
- Trials perhaps are a part of God's discipline process (Heb. 12:5-6; Psalm 139:23-24)
- Trials prepare us to serve others (2 Cor. 1:3-4)



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2. The Course to be Patient in Testing

- Expect Trials
- Count It all Joy
- Remind Yourself that there is a Purpose



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