

Members Notes #11

Hebrews 5:12-6:9

Pressing on to Maturity II

(You should be teachers by now!)

Over the next couple of weeks of our discussions, we'll be preparing for the River of Life Bible School's series "Laying The Foundations", which will run for 4 consecutive Tuesdays starting May 10th. We're indeed excited to offer this opportunity for the congregation to explore this very important subject.

TONIGHT'S PURPOSE: Prepare ACF for the upcoming River of Life Bible School's series by understanding that if we're not actively discipling others, we're missing out on much of the normal Christian maturation (maturing) process.

Please read Hebrews 5:11-6:3.

"Maturity" defined:

- 1 based on slow, careful consideration <a *mature* judgment>
- 2 a. (1) having completed natural growth and development <RIPE>
(2) having undergone maturation
- b. having attained a final or desired state <*mature* wine>
- 3 due for payment <a *mature* loan>

Synonyms: adult, full-blown, full-fledged, matured, ripe, ripened.

Antonyms : adolescent, green, immature, juvenile, unripe, unripened, young, youngish, youthful.

QUESTIONS

"For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles (revelations) of God. You need milk, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child" (Heb 5:12-13 ESV).

1. **At what part of the developmental stage do humans need milk? Why was the writer of Hebrews being so insulting? What do you think the people were doing or not doing that the author was calling them, by insinuation, derogatory names?**
2. **Should all Christians be teachers?**

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3. Do you agree with the statement, “A true sign of a maturing Christian is they are actively discipling”?

“Every Christian becomes capable of instructing others when he or she ...”

To be a successful Christian or successful local church for that matter is not rocket science. It's all about ...

Additional scriptures that might shed light on tonight's discussion:

“Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as **worldly**—mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still **worldly**. For since there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not **worldly**? Are you not acting like mere men” (1 Cor 3:1-3 NIV)?

“Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth” (1 Tim 2:15 NLT).

“Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life” (Matt 28:19 MSG).

“... and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also” (2 Tim 2:2 ESV).

“But give honour to Christ in your hearts as your Lord; and be ready at any time when you are questioned about the hope which is in you, to give an answer in the fear of the Lord and without pride” (1 Peter 3:15 BBE).

WORKS TIME

As usual pray for your *oilkos* and ask for testimonies about acts of kindness and witnessing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please:

- Sign up at the **Welcome Desk** for the River of Life Bible School's series “Laying The Foundations”, which will run for 4 consecutive Tuesdays, starting 10 May.
- Pick up your copy of *What's Cooking?* Devotional @ \$5.00 each from the **Welcome Desk**.
- Pick up copies of ACF's discipleship materials, Successful Christian Living and Designed for Discipleship series, at the welcome desk.