

Terry Fullam Audio Library

Scriptural References and Comment Notes

16-093-49

Ephesians 4:7-16

MOVING ON TO MATURITY

3:00 The church today is marked by shocking immaturity.

3:50 John 10:27 My sheep hear and know my voice. Today many are not able to distinguish between the Lord's voice and the voice of those who stand in opposition to God.

4:20 One aspect of maturity is the ability to reproduce ourselves in others. Helping to develop and disciple Christians.

5:00 Hebrews 5:11 The writer addressing the Christians says: In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!.... you are still infants... Even then there was a problem of maturity in the faith. These Christians had been brought to Christ by the Apostles themselves, yet they did not advance in their growth.

7:00 Is the current church distinguishable from the world?

8:00 Romans 12:2 Don't be conformed to the world. Don't be squeezed into the world's mold.

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9:50 Hebrews 5:14 Christians become mature by taking in solid food and by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. Discernment.

13:00 The church is often accepting of worldly morals and failing to adhere to the will of God. Homosexual lifestyle, and its acceptance by "Christians", is an example of the refusal of much of the church to honor God's will.

24:15 A Christian who remains ignorant of the scripture is a stunted Christian. If one does not learn to feed himself he will remain an infant.

26:00 We are to avail ourselves to the Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers (Ephesians 4: 11-12) so we can become equipped to work in God's service.

31:00 Philippians 3:12 – I am to press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. God has a plan for us and we mature as progress to fulfill that plan.

36:10 Colossians 4:12 – The best prayer you could ever pray for another is: That you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.

To be Christ like means in part, that you, as Christ, reach out to those who need to know a life in the Lord's kingdom.

Eph. 4:7 But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.
8 This is why it says:

“When he ascended on high,
he led captives in his train
and gave gifts to men.”

9 (What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? 10 He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) 11 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Eph. 4:14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

John 10:27 **My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.**

Heb. 5:11 We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn. 12 In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! 13 Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

Heb. 6:1 Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, 2 instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

Rom. 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Phil. 3:12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

Col. 4:12 Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.