

Mature Mentoring
Maturity in Conviction
Ephesians 4:7-16

Introduction:

Is it a good thing for children to remain _____?

If we don't want our children to remain children, what do we want them to become?

1 Corinthians 13:11; Matthew 14:21

Ephesians 4

We become mature in conviction by prioritizing and not neglecting what Christ has given.

1. What has Christ given to us? Vs. 11
 - a. What did apostles and prophets do? Ephesians 2:20; Acts 2:42
 - b. What do evangelists do?
 - c. What is the focus of pastor/teachers?
 - d. What do these gifts have in common?
 - e. He Himself gave – These are _____ gifts to the church.
2. How do we practically prioritize what Christ has given?
 - a. Pastors and missionaries must preach the _____. 2 Timothy 4:2
 - b. The body is to mature under the teaching and preaching ministry of the _____.
 - i. Be very careful how you respond when you don't like what the pastor _____ . 2 Timothy 4:3-4.
 - ii. Be very careful of the philosophy that says _____ can't learn from the pastor's sermon.
 1. We want to raise a generation that _____ the teaching and preaching ministry of the Word.

iii. Be very careful not to miss the _____ of Christ's gifts.

1. Equipping for the work of the _____ and edification vs. 12

a. To catch the full meaning of "work of the ministry" you can't think in terms of church programs, but of the Christian _____.

2. Maturity in _____ – vs. 13

3. No longer be _____ – vs. 14

4. Be able to help others grow by _____ the truth in love – vs. 15- 16

Discussion Questions:

1. What have you been learning from God's Word?
2. How have you been applying or sharing what you are learning from God's Word?
3. Why is it true that some people don't want to grow up? Or why do some adults wish that they could go back to their childhood?
4. Why might certain pastors/teachers not preach the Word?
5. How would you counsel a young believer, who didn't like a sermon because they were convicted by it?
6. How does family worship provide a training time for children to learn how to properly participate in corporate worship?
7. How is the American church doing at raising a generation that loves the preaching of the Word of God? Why?
8. What can we learn from the emphasis in Ephesians 4:11 on "He Himself"?
9. How have you matured in conviction by becoming more like Christ within the last year?