

THE TRUTH ABOUT SPIRITUAL MATURITY

The Life You've Always Wanted — Part 2

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Jerry Clonch

“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”

John 10:10 (NIV) pg. 748

I. THE MYTHS ABOUT SPIRITUAL MATURITY

A. Entering into a relationship with God is the same as developing a relationship with God.

“Who is he who will devote himself to be close to me?”

Jeremiah 30:21 (NIV) pg. 547

B. Developing a relationship with God isn't necessary.

“I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.”

Revelation 3:15-16 (NIV) pg. 863

II. THE TRUTH ABOUT SPIRITUAL MATURITY

“Let your roots grow down into Him and draw up nourishment from Him. See that you go on growing in the Lord, and become strong and vigorous in the truth you were taught.”

Colossians 2:7 (LB) pg. 822

“Spend your time and energy in training yourself for spiritual fitness. Physical exercise has some value, but spiritual exercise is much more important, for it promises a reward in both this life and the next.... Give your complete attention to these matters. Throw yourself into your tasks so that everyone will see your progress.”

1 Timothy 4:7-8, 15 (NLT) pg. 830

“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.”

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (NIV) pg. 798

III. THE MEANS OF SPIRITUAL MATURITY

A. Sunday Morning Worship Services

“You should not stay away from the church meetings, as some are doing, but you should meet together and encourage each other.”

Hebrews 10:25 (NCV) pg. 843

B. Spiritual Growth Campaigns

“You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God's word. You are like babies who need milk

and cannot eat solid food. For someone who lives on milk is still an infant and doesn't know how to do what is right." Hebrews 5:12-13 (NLT) pg. 840

C. Small Groups

"Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do His work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ." Ephesians 4:11-13 (NLT) pg. 815

"Students are not greater than their teacher. But the student who is fully trained will become like the teacher." Luke 6:40 (NIV) pg. 720