

MEASURING Biblical Maturity

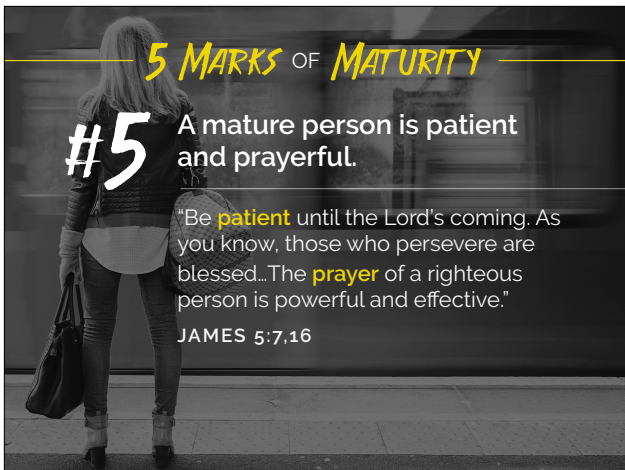
- ☆ Maturity is measured by the confluence of ethical integrity, emotional intelligence and spiritual endurance
- ☆ God looks at moral fidelity, applied wisdom and spiritual endurance to measure my character!



Mature

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"**teleioi**" - perfect; not without flaw, but **complete**; needing nothing added.



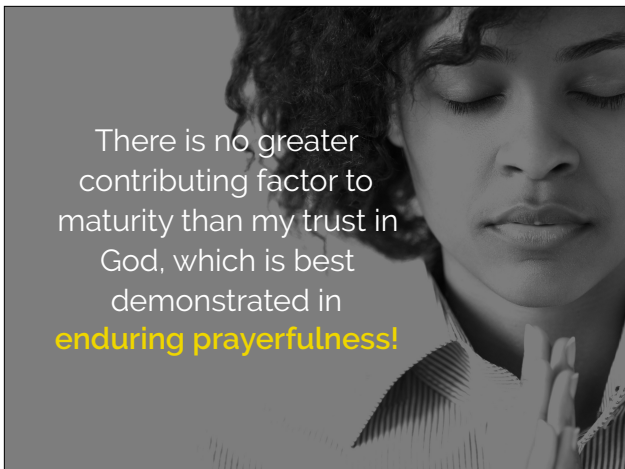
5 MARKS OF MATURITY

#5

A mature person is patient and prayerful.

"Be **patient** until the Lord's coming. As you know, those who persevere are blessed...The **prayer** of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

JAMES 5:7,16




There is no greater contributing factor to maturity than my trust in God, which is best demonstrated in **enduring prayerfulness!**



Patient Prayerfulness: LUKE 18

- ▶ A parable to teach that we should pray and not give up
- ▶ The story of the persistent widow
- ▶ When Christ returns, will he find faith on the earth?



"Be joyful in hope,
patient in affliction and
faithful in prayer."

ROMANS 12:12



5 MARKS OF MATURITY

#4

A mature person is a uniter
not a divider.

"What causes fights and quarrels
among you are the desires that battle
within you!" JAMES 4:1

- Being self-absorbed (v. 3)
- Being judgmental (vv. 11-12)



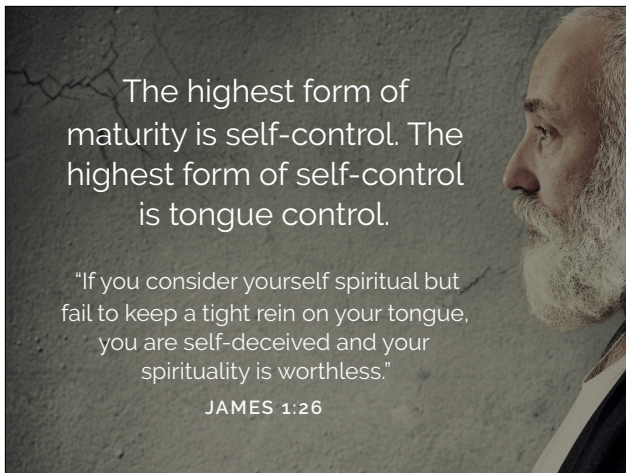
5 MARKS OF MATURITY

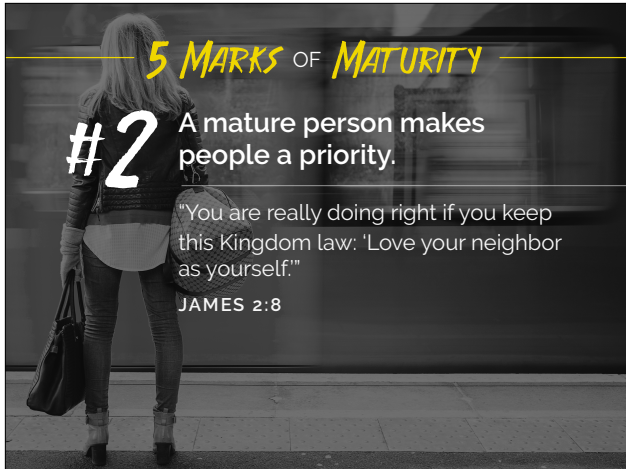
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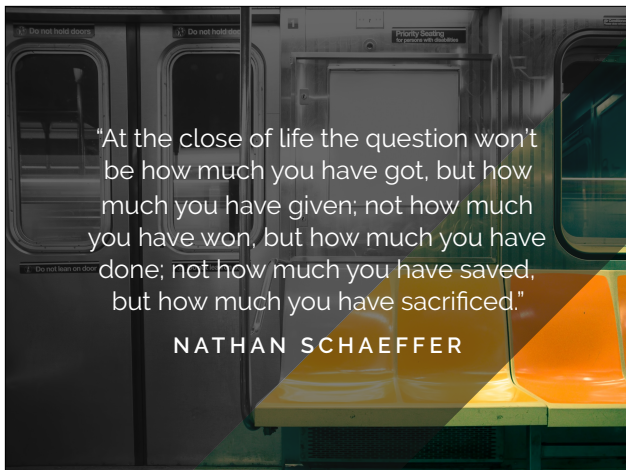
A mature person exerts
mastery over their mouth.

"Whoever can claim they never say the
wrong thing can consider themselves
perfect, for if you can control your
tongue you can control every other
part of your personality!"

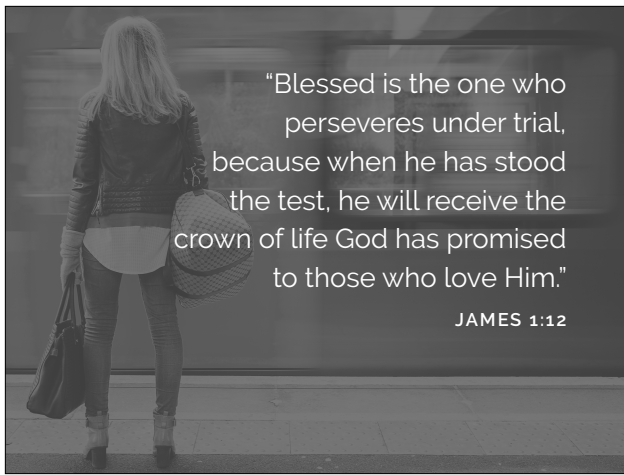
JAMES 3:2, J.B. PHILLIPS











"Blessed is the one who
perseveres under trial,
because when he has stood
the test, he will receive the
crown of life God has promised
to those who love Him."

JAMES 1:12



The Key To Joy In Trials: "BECAUSE YOU KNOW"

Circumstances don't determine
joyfulness; neither do feelings. The
gatekeeper of joy is God's truth.

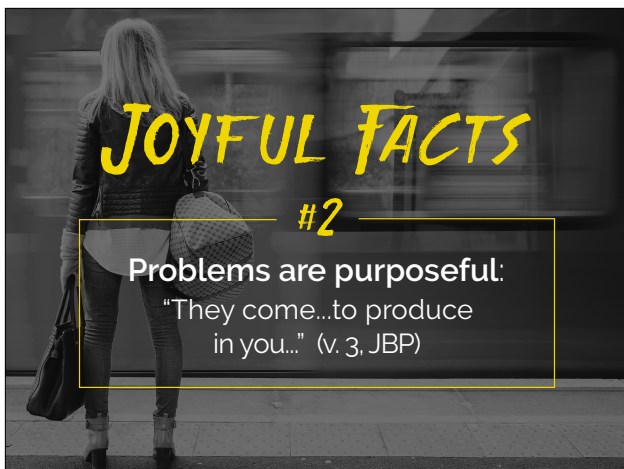


JOYFUL FACTS

#1

Problems are predictable:

"Whenever you face trials
of many kinds..." (v. 2)



JOYFUL FACTS

#2

Problems are purposeful:

"They come...to produce
in you..." (v. 3, JBP)




JOYFUL FACTS

#3

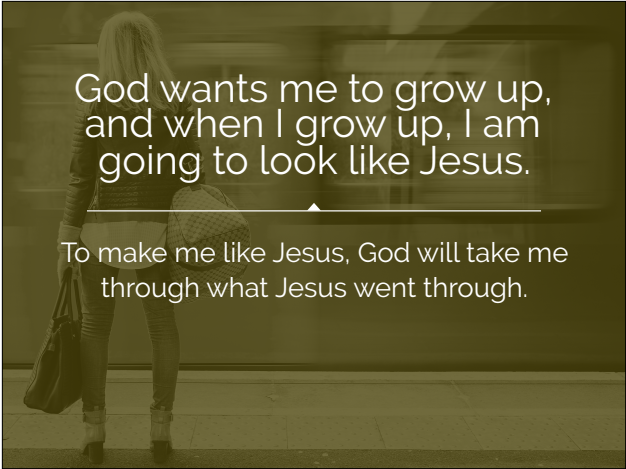
Problems are for perfecting:

"Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing." (v. 4)



"In all things God works for our good if we love him and are called according to his purpose. For those he calls, he's predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son."

ROMANS 8:28-29



God wants me to grow up,
and when I grow up, I am
going to look like Jesus.

To make me like Jesus, God will take me
through what Jesus went through.



MY
ASSIGNMENT

↓
REJOICE!

God is at work in me.