



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Maturing in Christ

SPEAKER SP Daniel Foo

THEME BBTC 33rd Anniversary

DATE 2 & 3 Nov 2019

MESSAGE SUMMARY

MATURING IN CHRIST

A disciple in BBTC is to be a priest and king – sharing Christ as we mature in Him. Maturing in Christ means to walk with God and grow spiritually. It is neither based on chronological age (children can also mature in Christ) nor does it happen automatically. SP goes on to explain how we can mature in Christ.

HOW TO MATURE IN CHRIST

1) Love God

None of us can love God on our own. The origin, fountain and source of love comes from God (1 John 4:16), so we must first receive and experience the love of God (1 John 4:10) by dwelling/relating/connecting with Him (1 John 4:19).

When we fail to experience and abide in the love of God, we will tend to revert to our carnal/corrupt/natural love that produces dead works. This may be manifested as performance in works, religious practices, self-indulgence or offence (Hebrews 6:1).

To *continually* receive and experience God's love, we need to be a true worshipper who sings to the Lord vs singing mere songs (John 4:23-24; Philippians 3:3), grow in the Word of God (Colossians 3:16) and build faith convictions through prayer vs saying empty prayers (1 Thessalonians 5:17; Proverbs 3:5-6).

2) Love others

With the love of God, we can then love others (Romans 5:5). This is best done by plugging into body life (John 13:34-35), beginning with the household of faith (Galatians 6:9-10).

Love for others will enable us to counter mistakes, failures, foibles and unmet expectations (1 Peter 4:8), and reinforces BBTC's core values, such as no offences, care for one another, maximum participation, no comparison/competition/condemnation, encouragement always, and help your leader to succeed.

3) Bear fruit

The outcome or outflow of our love for others is in witnessing and doing good deeds (Acts 3:6; Ephesians 2:10). This is evidenced ultimately by who we are becoming (Romans 8:29), and whether we are fulfilling God's purpose and destiny (Hebrews 12:1; Psalm 139:16; 2 Timothy 1:9).

CONCLUSION

Maturing in Christ takes intentionality. We need to take personal responsibility for our own spiritual life and maturity. Parents, in particular, need to take note that they cannot delegate that responsibility over their children.

QUESTIONS

1. What are some evidences of maturity in Christ? How would you describe a mature Christian?

2. SP Dan Foo shared three ways to mature in Christ – to love God, to love others and to bear fruit. Of these, which do you find easiest/hardest and why?

3. What is one thing we can do to further mature in Christ? How can the church (BBTC) help you to do so?