

**Growing towards  
Spiritual Maturity**





**WE SHARE CHRIST**  
**AS WE MATURE IN HIM**

***So how does a matured disciple look like?***





A young girl with long, light-colored hair is shown from the chest up. Her eyes are closed, and her hands are clasped together in front of her chest in a prayer position. She is looking slightly downwards. The background is a textured, mottled brown and tan color. The text "Let's Pray" is overlaid on the right side of the image in a large, white, sans-serif font.

Let's  
Pray



- ❖ Love God
- ❖ Love Others
- ❖ Bear fruit

Maturing in Christ







# Hebrews

Superiority of Christ



**11** About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. **12** For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, **13** for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. **14** But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

**Hebrews 5:11–14**





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**Hebrews 5:11–14**



<sup>8</sup> Although he (**Jesus**) was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. <sup>9</sup> And being made perfect, he became the **source of eternal salvation** to all who obey him, <sup>10</sup> being designated by God **a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.**

**Hebrews 5:8–10**



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**Hebrews 5:11–14**







**A.**

**EVIDENCES**

**of SPIRITUAL IMMATURITY**

**INABILITY TO**

**HEAR**

UFWK





Hear, O Israel:  
The Lord our God,  
the Lord is One!  
Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart  
and with all your soul  
and with all your strength.  
And these words which I  
command you today shall be  
in your heart.

Deuteronomy 6:4-6



<sup>11</sup> About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have **become dull of hearing**. <sup>12</sup> For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, <sup>13</sup> for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. <sup>14</sup> But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

**Hebrews 5:11–14**



Spiritual maturity is not reached by  
the passing of the years, but by  
obedience to the will of God.

— *Oswald Chambers* —



<sup>11</sup> About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. <sup>12</sup> For though by this time you **ought to be teachers**, you **need someone to teach you again** the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, <sup>13</sup> for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. <sup>14</sup> But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

**Hebrews 5:11–14**





# INABILITY TO TEACH



# 3 Levels of Teaching

1. Daily conversations
2. Small group teaching
3. Preaching to the masses



<sup>11</sup> About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. <sup>12</sup> For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You **need milk, not solid food**, <sup>13</sup> for everyone who lives on milk is **unskilled in the word of righteousness**, since he is a child. <sup>14</sup> But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

**Hebrews 5:11–14**



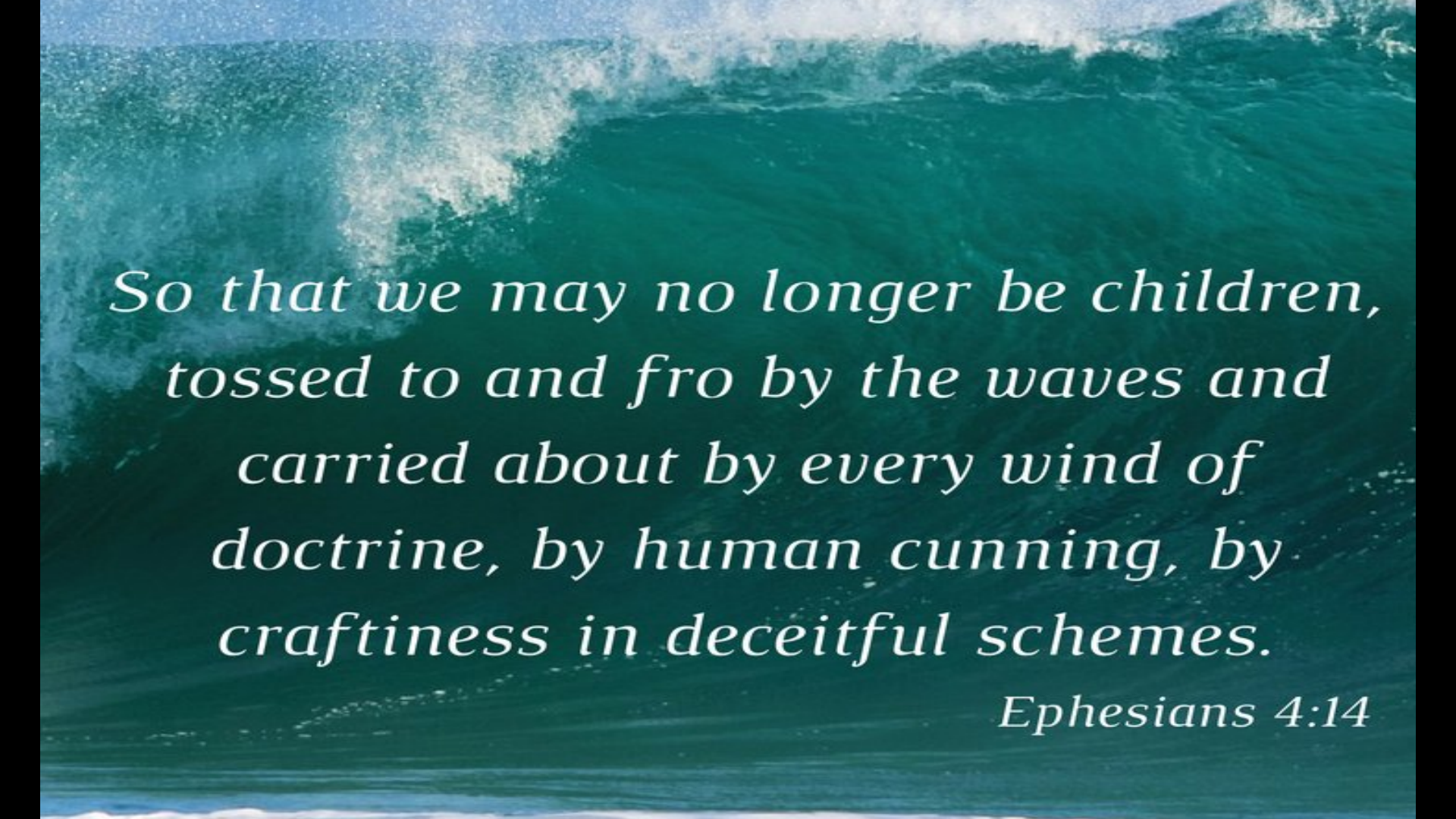
# WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

- We hear with the intent to obey.
- We teach so as to pass it on.



# INABILITY TO **DISCERN**





*So that we may no longer be children,  
tossed to and fro by the waves and  
carried about by every wind of  
doctrine, by human cunning, by  
craftiness in deceitful schemes.*

*Ephesians 4:14*

<sup>11</sup> About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. <sup>12</sup> For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, <sup>13</sup> for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. <sup>14</sup> But **solid food is for the mature**, for those who have their powers of discernment **trained by constant practice** to distinguish good from evil.

**Hebrews 5:11–14**





**Are you still growing  
in the Lord?**

**If no, why not?**





# WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

- We hear with the intent to obey.
- We teach so as to pass it on.
- We discern to distinguish between what's good and evil.



B.

# ENDANGERMENT

from SPIRITUAL IMMATURITY



<sup>1</sup> Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, <sup>2</sup> and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. <sup>3</sup> And this we will do if God permits. <sup>4</sup> For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit,

**Hebrews 6:1-8**



<sup>5</sup> and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, <sup>6</sup> and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt. <sup>7</sup> For land that has drunk the rain that often falls on it, and produces a crop useful to those for whose sake it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God. <sup>8</sup> But if it bears thorns and thistles, it is worthless and near to being cursed, and its end is to be burned.

**Hebrews 6:1-8**





**<sup>1</sup> Therefore** let us **leave** the elementary doctrine of Christ and **go on** to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, <sup>2</sup> and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

**Hebrews 6:1-2**



## Elementary Doctrines

- Repentance from dead works + Faith toward God
- Instruction about washings + Laying on of hands
- Resurrection of the dead + Eternal judgment



<sup>3</sup> And this **we will do if God permits.** <sup>4</sup> For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, <sup>5</sup> and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, <sup>6</sup> and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.

**Hebrews 6:3-6**



<sup>3</sup> And this we will do if God permits. <sup>4</sup> For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been **enlightened**, who have **tasted the heavenly gift**, and have **shared in the Holy Spirit**, <sup>5</sup> and have **tasted the goodness of the word of God** and the **powers** of the age to come, <sup>6</sup> and then have **fallen away**, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.

**Hebrews 6:3-6**





<sup>7</sup> For land that has drunk the rain that often falls on it, and produces a **crop useful** to those for whose sake it is **cultivated**, receives a **blessing** from God. <sup>8</sup> But if it bears **thorns and thistles**, it is **worthless** and near to being **cursed**, and its end is to be **burned**.



**Which plot of land best describes the  
condition of your heart today?**









BBTC PRESENTS

# OUR LIGHT HAS COME

COME DISCOVER THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD IN A SEASON OF CHRISTMAS MESSAGES!

DEC 7 & 8

**NOW I'M FREE**  
FROM FEAR TO FREEDOM

DEC 14 & 15

**NOW I'M FOUND**  
FROM LOST TO FOUND

DEC 21 & 22

**NOW I SEE**  
FROM BLINDNESS TO SIGHT

DEC 25

**OUR LIGHT HAS COME**  
CHRISTMAS BAPTISM SERVICE

DEC 28 & 29

**NOW I'M EMPOWERED**  
FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT



The background of the slide features a photograph of two hikers silhouetted against a clear, light blue sky. They are on a dark, rocky mountain ridge. One hiker is positioned slightly higher and further back, reaching out with their right hand to assist the other. The second hiker is in the foreground, leaning forward and reaching up with their left hand to grasp the first hiker's hand. Both hikers are wearing backpacks and outdoor gear. The overall mood is one of teamwork and overcoming challenges.

C.

**ENCOURAGEMENT**

towards SPIRITUAL MATURITY

<sup>9</sup> Though we speak in this way, yet in your case, beloved, we feel sure of better things—things that belong to salvation. <sup>10</sup> For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do. <sup>11</sup> And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, <sup>12</sup> so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

**Hebrews 6:9-12**



<sup>9</sup> Though we **speak in this way**, **yet in your case**, beloved, we feel sure of better things—things that belong to salvation.

<sup>10</sup> For **God is not unjust** so as to overlook your **work** and the **love** that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do.

**Hebrews 6:9-10**



- **F**ocus on God
- **A**pply what you have learned
- **I**mitate the godly (learn from them)
- **T**rust God (be patient)





<sup>11</sup> And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end,  
<sup>12</sup> so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience **inherit** the promises.

**Hebrews 6:11-12**



- **F**ocus on God
- **A**pply what you have learned
- **I**mitate the godly (learn from them)
- **T**rust God (be patient)
- **H**elp in serving the church





A person wearing a brown sweater is shown from the side, looking out over a vast, green forest. Their hands are clasped together, resting on a wooden railing. The background is a dense, out-of-focus forest with various shades of green. The text "ARE YOU DISCOURAGED?" is overlaid in white, with "DISCOURAGED?" in a bold, sans-serif font.

ARE YOU **DISCOURAGED?**

A. **EVIDENCES** of spiritual immaturity

B. **ENDANGERMENT** from spiritual immaturity

C. **ENCOURAGEMENT** towards spiritual maturity





# Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above.

