



Adult and Teen Life Groups Conferencing Guide

SERMON DATE: 05/05/2019
DISCUSSION DATE: 05/12/2019
TEXT: PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11

I. EXAMINING THE MATURITY OF A CHRIST-LIKE DISCIPLE

A. The Prayer of a Maturing Disciple.

- Philippians 1:9; 2 Thessalonians 3:1

B. . The Discipline of a Maturing Disciple.

- Philippians 1:10; Hebrews 5:13-14.

C. . The Pursuit of a Maturing Disciple.

- Philippians 1:10; Psalm 139:23-24.

D. . The Measure of a Mature Disciple.

- Philippians 1:11

E. . ASK GOD FOR WISDOM TO APPLY HIS WORD IN OUR DAILY



1. **Discuss this principle: Language creates culture (the words we use create the world we live in).** How does that work in our families? What happens when we use the same words with different understanding of their meaning? How do we make sure we all use the same language as a church family?
2. **Define what it means to be a disciple of Jesus** - Write a single sentence that you could use to provide a clear understanding to another person? Why is it important for us to examine our understanding of being a disciple? How does this connect to the call of self-examination as we partake of the Lord's Table?
3. **What are the characteristics of a mature believer?** What spiritual disciplines do they practice?
4. **Read Philippians 3:17; 1 Timothy 3:10-11; 1 Timothy 4:12.** Why is it important to notice the mature believers in the local church?
5. **Read Philippians 1:3-8.** What should characterize our times of corporate worship? How do our life-groups help us live this out? What assurance do we find in v. 6? How should this impact upon our lives? How does this help us pursue spiritual maturity?
6. **Read Philippians 1:9 & 2 Thessalonians 3:1.** Why is pray essential to spiritual maturity? How does Paul connect prayer to the effectiveness of the Word? Eleven times in Psalm 119, the Psalmist asks the Lord to teach him the Word. What is the repetition of this request meant to teach us?
7. What dominates most prayer requests we hear shared at church? What dominates Paul's prayer for the church in Philippi? What does a maturing disciple pray for?
8. **Read Philippians 1:10 & Hebrews 5:13-14.** How do we learn to approve things that are excellent? How does our definition of excellence affect our understanding of this text?
9. **Read Philippians 1:10 & Psalm 139:23-24.** What desires govern the daily pursuits of a maturing believer? How do we develop our desire for purity?
10. **Read Philippians 1:11 & Ephesians 2:10.** What the fruits of righteousness? How do our lives become filled by them? Who receives the praise for such fruit and why? What evidences that our lives are the product of God's workmanship?