

Growing more like Jesus

- 1 Thessalonians 5:12-15

Nov.8, 2020

More Like Jesus

Col 1:28 CSB - We proclaim him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Eph 4:15 NKJV - but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ-

Eph 4:15 NLT - Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

Rom 8:29 NKJV - For whom He foreknew, He also predestined [to be] conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

1Th 5:12-15

And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labour among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves. Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all. See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.

Relationships & Attitude

With church leaders v.11-13a

And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labour among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake.

With one another v.13b-15

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Church leadership

“The policy seems to have been to wait until qualities of spiritual leadership displayed themselves in certain members of a church and then to urge the others to acknowledge and respect those as leaders. One of the most obvious qualities of leadership was a readiness to serve the church and care for its needs. Such leaders did not do the appropriate work bc they had been appointed as leaders; they were recognized as leaders bc they were seen to be doing the work.”

—F.F.Bruce



Church leadership

“a purely spiritual exercise possibly only to spiritual persons. Non-spiritual persons cannot recognize, and would not acknowledge, spiritual workers or their work.”

—C.F. Hogg and W.E. Vine



Relationships & Attitude

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Col 1:28-29 CSB - We proclaim him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. I might be the firstborn among many brethren. (29) I labour for this, striving with his strength that works powerfully in me.

Church leadership is there to serve the community of believers to mature in Christ.

Mature: to become more like Jesus

Eph 4:11-15 CSB - And he himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,
12 equipping the saints for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ,

13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ's fullness.

14 Then we will no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching, by human cunning with cleverness in the techniques of deceit.

15 But speaking the truth in love, let us grow in every way into him who is the head -- Christ.

Eph 4:16 CSB - From him the whole body, fitted and knit together by every supporting ligament, promotes the growth of the body for building up itself in love by the proper working of each individual part.

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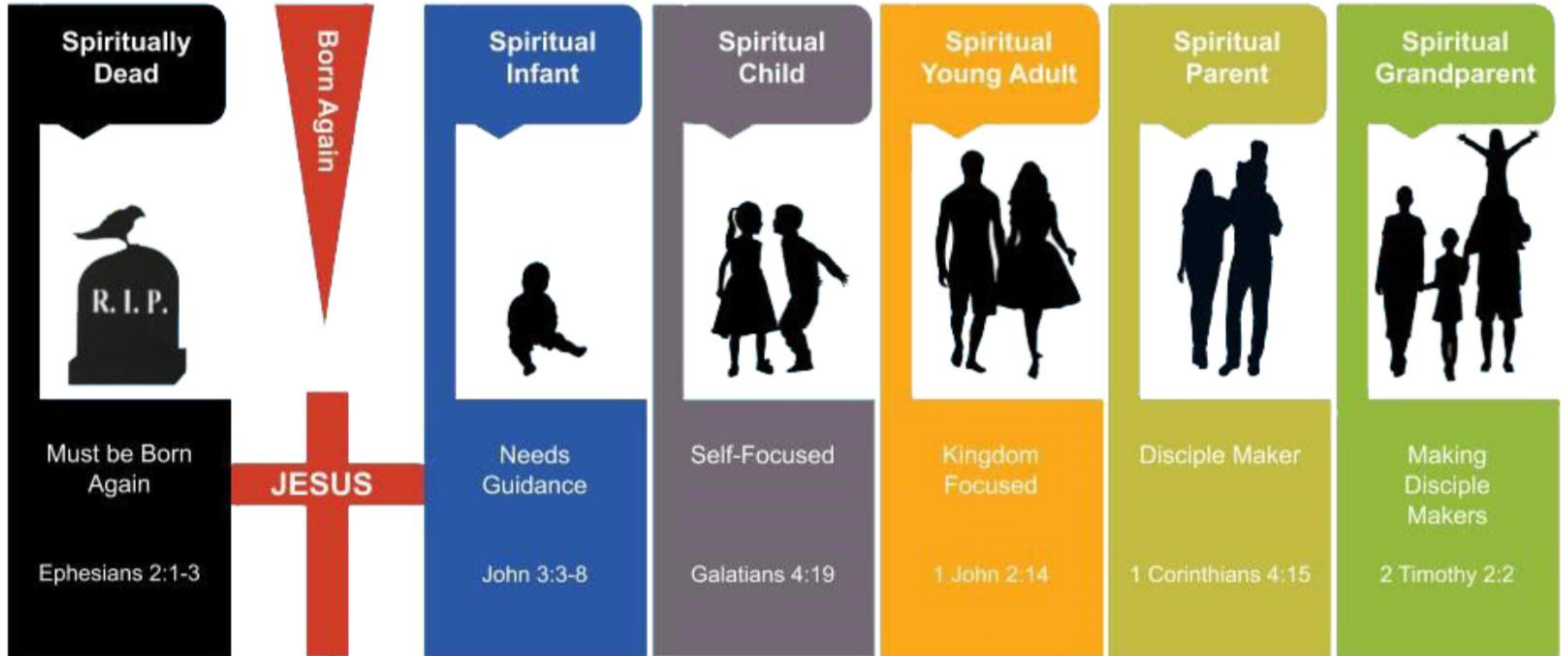
Mature: to grow up into Him!

1Thes 5:13b-15

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STAGES OF SPIRITUAL MATURITY



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