

SERMON NOTES

Marks of Maturing
Feb. 4th, 2018 | Philippians 3:12-16

Five Marks of Maturing Christians

1. Maturing Christians know they haven't _____ (12a, 15).
2. Maturing Christians pursue maturity _____ (12b).
3. Maturing Christians don't let the _____ define or influence them (13).
4. Maturing Christians keep their eyes set on _____ (14).
5. Maturing Christians _____ to the maturity they've already attained (16).

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Related Scripture

1 Cor. 9:24 | 2 Tim. 4:7-8 | 1 Cor. 13:11-12
Heb. 6:1-2 | Matt. 5:48 | Acts 20:24

Relevant Quotes

“The notion of merit is entirely excluded by the reminder that God’s enabling call and persevering grace are required before the race can be completed.”

-Ralph Martin

“No obsessive hatred ever dogged the heels of its adversary with more tenacity than the apostle held to the target of Christian perfection. This is a far cry from the teaching on sanctification which calls believers to ‘let go and let God!’ There was not much ‘letting go’ with Paul, but rather an example of the truth that the regenerate believer must appropriate the sanctifying grace of God by actively obeying him.”

-J. Alec Motyer

“People do not drift toward holiness. Apart from grace-driven effort, people do not gravitate toward godliness, prayer, obedience to Scripture, faith and delight in the Lord. We drift toward compromise and all its tolerance; we drift toward disobedience and call it freedom; we drift toward superstition and call it faith. We cherish the indiscipline of lost self-control and call it relaxation; we slouch toward prayerlessness and delude ourselves into thinking we have escaped legalism; we slide toward godlessness and convince ourselves we have been liberated.”

-D.A. Carson

Language Considerations (Greek)

“Perfect” | τελειόω: “completed, accomplished.”

“Press on” | διώκω: “pursue, put to flight”

“Forgetting” | ἐπιλανθάνομαι: “forget, neglect.”

“Straining” | ἐπεκτείνομαι: “extend after, stretch forward.”

“Mature” | τέλειος: “complete, full grown.”

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