

The Life Core

The Source of Life & You

#17

The Mature–Stage #3

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- Young man might have confusion of when it starts and ends but not the father.
- A father begins when he has a child.
- Procreating and shaping of a child.

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God's Three Goals for Us

(1) God wants to move all of us forward to this third and final stage of spiritual development.

(2) God wants each of us to lead others into a new spiritual life.

(3) The Lord desires that we responsibly care for those that gain spiritual life around us.

- The marks of Jesus Christ should be clearly seen in our lives.

"Until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a **mature man**, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ" (Eph 4:13).

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Thinking About Others

- Never forget to share the life-bringing Gospel with others.
- Our responsibility to care for those we bring into God's family.
- Leadership has much more to helping others grow than holding a position.
- Make sure everyone is 'fathered' in a spiritual sense.

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Our Lessons

- The 'fathers' are mature believers who have stepped beyond the struggles of the young believer and are able to focus his or her care on others.
- God's people can and should grow into full maturity in Christ.
- We are responsible to pass God's truth of life on to others and care for their spiritual development.

Application

➡ Have you taken care of younger believers in Christ? How has that gone? How could it have been better?

➡ Is there anyone around you that you are now caring for?

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