

#17 The Mature–Stage #3

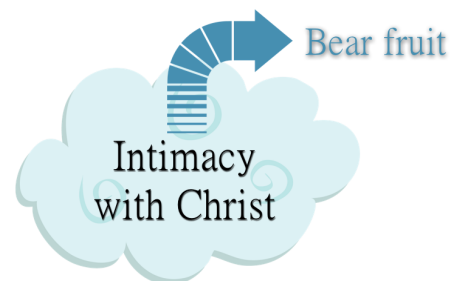
Paul J. Bucknell

- 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.

God's 3 Goals for Us

“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).

- (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. 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.



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.

Our Applications

- ➡ 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?