

# The Marks of a Mature Person

## SERIES: Developing a Faith That Works – Part 1

God's will for every person is personal growth and maturity. The book of James defines what maturity means.

### WHAT MATURITY ISN'T:

- It's not: **AGE**
- It's not: **APPEARANCE**
- It's not: **ACHIEVEMENT**
- It's not: **ACADEMICS**

\* God says maturity is determined by **ATTITUDE**.

### 5 MARKS OF MATURITY

#### **I. A MATURE PERSON IS POSITIVE UNDER PRESSURE.**

*"Consider it pure joy, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know the testing of your faith develops perseverance and perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete not lacking anything." James 1:2-4*

*"Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him." James 1:12*

#### **II. A MATURE PERSON IS SENSITIVE TO PEOPLE.**

*"If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, 'Love your neighbor as yourself' you are doing right." James 2:8*

*See 2:1-6, 14-16*

### III. A MATURE PERSON HAS **MASTERED HIS MOUTH**.

*"We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check." James 3:2*

See vs. 3-11

*"Do not let any negative talk come out of your mouth but only what is helpful for building up others according to their needs ..." Eph. 4:29*

*"If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless." James 1:26*

### IV. A MATURE PERSON IS A **PEACEMAKER**, NOT A **TROUBLEMAKER**.

*"What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?" James 4:1*

## 2 Sources of Conflict:

\* (vs. 2-3) **SELFISHNESS**

\* (vs. 11-12) **JUDGEMENTALISM**

### V. A MATURE PERSON IS **PATIENT AND PRAYERFUL**.

*"Be patient then, brothers, until the Lord's coming ... As you know, we consider blessed those who persevere." James 5:7, 11*

*"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."  
James 5:16b*

**How do you rate your maturity?**