

SERMON NOTES

Date: March 31, 2019

Series: Messy Church

Title: Marks of Spiritual Maturity

Text: 1 Corinthians 16:13

Big Idea: The gospel not only provides comfort for sinners, but also a call for spiritual growth and maturity in the lives of God's people.

STUDY GUIDE

Questions for Small Group Discussion and Personal Application

DISCUSS THE ISSUE

Think of those you would consider to mature in their walk with Christ. What is it about their life that leads you to believe they are spiritually mature?

Why does the Christian need to be watchful and how is that a sign of spiritual maturity?

How can a Christian stand firm in the faith?

How does the world's view of courage and strength differ from the biblical view?

Think back upon this letter and some of the issues the Corinthian church struggled to live out biblically. How would doing "everything in love" begin to solve some of those struggles?

Think of examples from Jesus' earthly ministry where he displayed the qualities Paul lists in these verses.

APPLY THE TRUTH

Take each of Paul's commands in these two verses and think about an area of your life where you need to keep, or start, obeying it:

- Be watchful
- Stand firm in the faith
- Be courageous
- Be strong
- Do everything in love

How can you keep the quest for spiritual growth and maturity from becoming a self-righteous and legalistic pursuit?

COMMIT THIS WEEK

Spend time thanking Jesus this week for perfectly embodying the kind of spiritual maturity he desires to produce in us. Speak to him about ways you need to grow and share with another trusted Christian your plan to grow in these areas.