

Jesus wants us to grow into the stature of full-grown mature Christians.



WHEN WE ARE SAVED OR “BORN AGAIN” (John 3:3–8), at first we’re like babies, spiritually speaking. Like babies need nourishment and exercise every day to be healthy and grow, we need spiritual nourishment and exercise every day. But a lot of Christians stop growing when they are only a few months or years old. They never grow up; they never mature. They think they’ve learned all they need to and so never grow into the kind of Christians that Jesus wants them to be—mature Christians who are able to carry a lot of responsibility and make sacrifices when necessary.

God’s Word says that even Jesus “learned obedience by the things which He suffered” (Hebrews 5:8), and “Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men” (Luke 2:52 NIV). Every day we learn some new obedience, and although some things get harder, others get easier—like growing up. That’s what it’s all about!

Spiritual maturity is not entirely a matter of time; it’s mostly a matter of your connection with Jesus and His Word and your obedience and humility. A child becomes a true adult when he learns to act responsibly and think of others, and it’s the same with Christians. That’s spiritual maturity.