

INNER MAN #3
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“Christ’s love controls us. Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them.” 2 Cor. 5:14-15

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.” John 10:11 NLT

“I have been crucified with Christ. My ego is no longer central. It is no longer important that I appear righteous before you or have your good opinion, and I am no longer driven to impress God. Christ lives in me. The life you see me living is not “mine,” but it is lived by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I am not going to go back on that.” Galatians 2:20 MSG

SACRIFICE _____.

SACRIFICE _____.

SACRIFICE _____.

INNER MAN FACT:

THE INNER CHALLENGE: INNER MAN defeats INNER BOY

MATURITY IN GOD’S LOVE _____.

“When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.” 1 Corinthians 13:11 NIV

MATURITY IN GOD’S LOVE _____.

“Having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory. What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?”
Romans 8:30-31 NIV

MATURITY IN GOD’S LOVE _____.

“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.” John 15:13 NIV

“In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.” Hebrews 2:10-11 NIV

MATURITY IN GOD’S LOVE _____.

“He handed out gifts of apostle, prophet, evangelist, and pastor-teacher to train Christ’s followers in skilled servant work, working within Christ’s body, the church, until we’re all moving rhythmically and easily with each other, efficient and graceful in response to God’s Son, fully mature adults, fully developed within and without, fully alive like Christ. No prolonged infancies among us, please. We’ll not tolerate babes in the woods, small children who are an easy mark for impostors. God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in love—like Christ in everything. We take our lead from Christ, who is the source of everything we do. He keeps us in step with each other. His very breath and blood flow through us, nourishing us so that we will grow up healthy in God, robust in love.” Ephesians 4:11-16 MSG

MATURITY IN GOD’S LOVE _____.

“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.” Romans 8:28 NLT

“No one can take my life from me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. For this is what my Father has commanded.” John 10:18

MATURITY IN GOD’S LOVE

“The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives. Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.”

Gone is shame

Gone is anxiety over my worth

Gone is bitterness over my losses

Gone is despair over things I can’t control

Gone is impulse and lack of self-control

Gone is impatience/irritation that frustrates

Gone is selfishness and indifference

Gone is harshness/hardness

Gone is unfaithfulness/untrustworthiness

WHERE ARE YOU ON GOD’S MATURITY SCALE?

“Love from the center of who you are; don’t fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good. Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle.” Romans 12:9-10 MSG

“Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. All that you do must be done in love.”

FOR DISCUSSION:

WHEN SOMEONE SACRIFICES FOR YOU HOW DOES IT AFFECT YOU INSIDE? WHAT DOES IT COMMUNICATE?

WHAT “WAYS” NEED TO CHANGE THAT WOULD REFLECT MATURITY IN GOD’S LOVE?

WHAT ASPECT OF MATURITY RESONATED WITH YOU PERSONALLY AND WHY?

WHAT IS ONE DEEP WORK IN YOU THAT GOD’S LOVE CAN GROW YOU OUT OF?

