

Mature men are needed in the Christian congregation. In this article, we will consider how you young brothers can become mature Christian men.

EXPRESSION EXPLAINED: Someone who has reached Christian maturity is guided by God’s spirit, not by worldly wisdom. He or she imitates Jesus’ example, works hard to maintain a close relationship with Jehovah, and shows self-sacrificing love for others.

(1 Kings 2:2) “I am about to die. Therefore, be strong and prove yourself a man.

Paragraph 1

(1 Kings 2:1-3) When the time of David’s death drew near, he gave his son Sol’o-mon these instructions: 2 “I am about to die. Therefore, be strong and prove yourself a man. 3 You must keep your obligation to Jehovah your God by walking in his ways and by observing his statutes, his commandments, his judgments, and his reminders as they are written in the Law of Moses; then you will succeed in everything you do and everywhere you turn.

(Luke 2:52) And Jesus went on progressing in wisdom and in physical growth and in favor with God and men.

Paragraph 2

(Ephesians 6:4) And fathers, do not be irritating your children, but go on bringing them up in the discipline and admonition of Jehovah.

(1 Timothy 3:1) This statement is trustworthy: If a man is reaching out to be an overseer, he is desirous of a fine work.

Paragraph 4

(Hebrews 13:7) Remember those who are taking the lead among you, who have spoken the word of God to you, and as you contemplate how their conduct turns out, imitate their faith.

(1 Peter 2:21) In fact, to this course you were called, because even Christ suffered for you, leaving a model for you to follow his steps closely.

(Hebrews 12:1, 2) So, then, because we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also throw off every weight and the sin that easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 as we look intently at the Chief Agent and Perfecter of our faith, Jesus. For the joy that was set before him he endured a torture stake, despising shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Paragraph 5

(Proverbs 3:21) My son, do not lose sight of them. Safeguard practical wisdom and thinking ability;

(Proverbs 7:7) And as I observed the naive ones, I discerned among the youths a young man lacking good sense.

(Proverbs 29:11) A stupid person gives vent to all his feelings, But the wise one calmly keeps them in check.

(Psalm 119:9) How can a young man keep his path clean? By keeping on guard according to your word.

(Proverbs 2:11, 12) Thinking ability will keep watch over you, And discernment will safeguard you, 12 To save you from the bad course, From the man speaking perverse things,

(Hebrews 5:14) But solid food belongs to mature people, to those who through use have their powers of discernment trained to distinguish both right and wrong.

Paragraph 6

(1 Timothy 5:1, 2) Do not severely criticize an older man. On the contrary, appeal to him as a father, to younger men as brothers, 2 to older women as mothers, to younger women as sisters, with all chasteness.

(1 Corinthians 6:18) Flee from sexual immorality! Every other sin that a man may commit is outside his body, but whoever practices sexual immorality is sinning against his own body.

Paragraph 7

(1 Corinthians 10:31-33) Therefore, whether you are eating or drinking or doing anything else, do all things for God's glory. 32 Keep from becoming causes for stumbling to Jews as well as Greeks and to the congregation of God, 33 just as I am trying to please all people in all things, not seeking my own advantage, but that of the many, so that they may be saved.

(Titus 2:6) Likewise, keep on urging the younger men to be sound in mind,

Paragraph 8

(Luke 16:10) The person faithful in what is least is faithful also in much, and the person unrighteous in what is least is unrighteous also in much.

(John 13:1) Now because he knew before the festival of the Passover that his hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father, Jesus, having loved his own who were in the world, loved them to the end.

(Romans 12:11) Be industrious, not lazy. Be aglow with the spirit. Slave for Jehovah.

(Colossians 3:23) Whatever you are doing, work at it whole-souled as for Jehovah, and not for men,

(Proverbs 11:2) When presumptuousness comes, dishonor will follow, But wisdom is with the modest ones.

Paragraph 10

(Psalm 1:1-3) Happy is the man who does not walk according to the advice of the wicked And does not stand on the path of sinners And does not sit in the seat of scoffers. 2 But his delight is in the law of Jehovah, And he reads His law in an undertone day and night. 3 He will be like a tree planted by streams of water, A tree that produces fruit in its season, The foliage of which does not wither. And everything he does will succeed.

(Proverbs 1:3, 4) To acquire the discipline that gives insight, Righteousness, good judgment, and uprightness; 4 To impart shrewdness to the inexperienced; To give a young man knowledge and thinking ability.

Paragraph 11

(Titus 1:9) holding firmly to the faithful word as respects his art of teaching, so that he may be able both to encourage by the teaching that is wholesome and to reprove those who contradict.

Paragraph 12

(Proverbs 20:5) The thoughts of a man's heart are like deep waters, But the discerning man draws them out.

(2 John 12) Although I have many things to write to you, I do not want to do so with paper and ink, but I am hoping to come to you and to speak

with you face-to-face, so that your joy may be in full measure.

Paragraph 13

(1 Timothy 5:8) Certainly if anyone does not provide for those who are his own, and especially for those who are members of his household, he has disowned the faith and is worse than a person without faith.

(Acts 18:2, 3) And he found a Jew named Aq'ui-la, a native of Pon'tus who had recently come from Italy with Pris·cil'la his wife, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. So he went to them, 3 and because he had the same trade, he stayed at their home and worked with them, for they were tentmakers by trade.

(Acts 20:34) You yourselves know that these hands have provided for my own needs and the needs of those with me.

(Ephesians 4:28) Let the one who steals steal no more; rather, let him do hard work, doing good work with his hands, so that he may have something to share with someone in need.

Paragraph 14

(Philippians 4:11-13) Not that I am saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be self-sufficient regardless of my circumstances. 12 I know how to be low on provisions and how to have an abundance. In everything and in all circumstances I have learned the secret of both how to be full and how to hunger, both how to have an abundance and how to do without. 13 For all things I have the strength through the one who gives me power.

Paragraph 15

(1 Timothy 3:1) This statement is trustworthy: If a man is reaching out to be an overseer, he is desirous of a fine work.

Paragraph 16

(1 Timothy 3:1-13) This statement is trustworthy: If a man is reaching out to be an overseer, he is desirous of a fine work. 2 The overseer should therefore be irreprehensible, a husband of one wife, moderate in habits, sound in mind, orderly, hospitable, qualified to teach, 3 not a drunkard, not violent, but reasonable, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money, 4 a man presiding over his own household in a fine manner, having his children in subjection with all seriousness 5 (for if any man does not know how to preside over his own household, how will he care for the congregation of God?), 6 not a newly converted man, for fear that he might get puffed up with pride and fall into the judgment passed on the Devil. 7 Moreover, he should also have a fine testimony from outsiders so that he does not fall into reproach and a snare of the Devil. 8 Ministerial servants should likewise be serious, not double-tongued, not indulging in a lot of wine, not greedy of dishonest gain, 9 holding the sacred secret of the faith with a clean conscience. 10 Also, let these be tested as to fitness first; then let them serve as ministers, as they are free from accusation. 11 Women should likewise be serious, not slanderous, moderate in habits, faithful in all things. 12 Let ministerial servants be husbands of one wife, presiding in a fine manner over their children and their own households. 13 For the men who minister in a fine manner are acquiring for themselves a fine standing and great freeness of speech in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

(Titus 1:6-9) if there is any man free from accusation, a husband of one wife, having believing children who are not accused of debauchery or rebelliousness. 7 For as God's steward, an overseer must be free from

accusation, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not a drunkard, not violent, not greedy of dishonest gain, 8 but hospitable, a lover of goodness, sound in mind, righteous, loyal, self-controlled, 9 holding firmly to the faithful word as respects his art of teaching, so that he may be able both to encourage by the teaching that is wholesome and to reprove those who contradict.

(1 Peter 5:2, 3) Shepherd the flock of God under your care, serving as overseers, not under compulsion, but willingly before God; not for love of dishonest gain, but eagerly; 3 not lording it over those who are God’s inheritance, but becoming examples to the flock.

Paragraph 17

(Matthew 19:12) For there are eunuchs who were born that way, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs on account of the Kingdom of the heavens. Let the one who can make room for it make room for it.”

(1 Corinthians 11:3) But I want you to know that the head of every man is the Christ; in turn, the head of a woman is the man; in turn, the head of the Christ is God.

(Ephesians 5:28, 29) In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. A man who loves his wife loves himself, 29 for no man ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cherishes it, just as the Christ does the congregation,

Paragraph 18

(Ephesians 6:4) And fathers, do not be irritating your children, but go on bringing them up in the discipline and admonition of Jehovah.

(Matthew 3:17) Look! Also, a voice from the heavens said: “This is my Son, the beloved, whom I have approved.”

(John 15:9) Just as the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; remain in my love.

Paragraph 20

(Isaiah 41:10) Do not be afraid, for I am with you. Do not be anxious, for I am your God. I will fortify you, yes, I will help you, I will really hold on to you with my right hand of righteousness.’

(Isaiah 41:13) For I, Jehovah your God, am grasping your right hand, The One saying to you, ‘Do not be afraid. I will help you.’

(Proverbs 22:4) The result of humility and the fear of Jehovah is riches and glory and life.