

Growing Towards Christian Maturity

Lessons learned from the book of James

Lesson Two: Maturity Comes Through Our Unwavering Faith in God

Today scripture reading: James 1:5-8

When you don't know what to do, or how to deal with something, where do you go for advice? Do you call your mother? Do you go to Oprah? Do you read Dr. Phil? Do you ask your neighbor or friend? Do you run to the library?

The Bible teaches us in James 1:5, that if any of us lacks wisdom, we are to run to God for it. How does God pass on His wisdom to us? Through His Word.

Do you spend time each day studying God's Word? Do you know what God has to say about the many issues that you deal with in your life? Do you know how He feels about things like marriage, divorce, finances, child rearing, depression, security, relationships, creation, and purpose? Do you know how He wants you to handle things like fear, bitterness, betrayal, suffering, time, talents, and money?

I want to share with you a little something that God wants you to understand about His Word:

God's Word gives us answers, not advice.

Once we gain a proper understanding of this truth, it is easier for us to look to God for the help that we need in our daily lives.

How to Develop an Unwavering Faith in God

1. **Ask** God for the wisdom that you need to know about how to handle things
2. **Believe** that God gives the right answers through His Word when you ask for them
3. **Understand** that you must ask for wisdom in faith (believing what He says, whether you understand it or not)
4. **Obey** what God's Word tells you to do (don't just learn about it just know about it)
5. **Realize** that God works His miraculous work in those who actually DO what He says (this is how we prove to Him that we truly believe)
6. **Recognize** that our maturity is measured by our willingness to **ask** God for wisdom, **do** what His Word says, and **trust** Him for the right results

What causes hinders some Christian women from fully maturing in their faith in God?

- *They ask God for advice, instead of looking to Him for answers*
- *They ask God in voice, but then question Him in spirit*
- *They pick and choose the wisdom that they are willing to obey from God's Word*

Christian maturity is all about growing in the ability to trust in the ways of God. It's about reading His Word and then heeding what it says . . . whether you agree with it or not, and even if it causes you some pain and discomfort.

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7. _____ God for the wisdom that you need to know about how to handle things
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