

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES

Part 1 of THE PURPLE BOOK. Ephesians 4:11-13.
Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. January 9, 2022.

WHY WE'RE USING THE PURPLE BOOK

- God's goal for our lives is spiritual maturity.

THREE INGREDIENTS OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Ephesians 4:11-13 (ESV) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ ...

1. The people of spiritual growth.

Verse 11. And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers.

Their priority is teaching us the foundational beliefs and behaviors that fuel our spiritual growth to maturity.

Colossians 1:28 (ESV) Him (Christ) we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

2. The process of spiritual growth.

Verse 12: ... to equip the saints for the work of ministry,

3. The product of spiritual growth.

Verse 13: ... unity of the faith ... knowledge of the Son of God ... stature of Christ ...

We know we're mature when our beliefs and behaviors conform to Christ

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HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM THE PURPLE BOOK

We'll get the most from The Purple Book when we keep five commitments.

1. Commit to be here all 12 weeks.
2. Commit to work on the daily studies.
3. Commit to a small group.
4. Commit to pray.
5. Commit to change and grow.

CONCLUSION

As we grow towards spiritual maturity, we will become high impact individuals and church.

TODAY'S BIBLICAL/THEOLOGICAL TERM

- Mature, Maturity.

The Greek term is *teleios*, meaning mature, complete, adult, finished, perfect.

In union with Jesus Christ through faith, we grow from spiritual infancy to a maturity defined as the full stature of Christ; that is, our beliefs and behaviors are conformed to Christ. Both the corporate church and the individual believer grow to spiritual maturity (Ephesians 4:13; Philippians 3:12; James 1:4).

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