

May 16th Series- TEAM RED; Sermon- Mature Me. Gen. 3:1-6; Job 1:1-3,8,22

Would you be willing to say to the Lord today, "Mature me.?" May He answer that prayer in this next season of your life. God uses a process to mature His followers. Job was blameless and upright but he had a very bad day. Does that mess with our theology? If the outside is good it means the inside is good. We spend so much time getting the outside looking good but the question is, "What's the inside of your heart look like? It all comes back to the accuser of the brethren, Satan. If we are going to mature and grow healthy families then we need to take ownership and say, "It's about me." Our past does not dictate who we are. Our security had better not be in what we see around us because that will someday go. To have a better inside we need to acknowledge Shame. Sometimes our theology gets warped because we don't go to the source for ourselves. Through the fall of man shame entered the world, We try to cover it up. Is. 61:10; Rev. 3:18 God exchanges it for us.

We try to cast blame and it reveals our immaturity. Physical age has nothing to do with spiritual maturity. Gen. 3:11-13. At the end of the day and because of our leadership we need to take ownership of any mistakes that were made. Eve was named after the fall. Adam put a label on her that brought separation Gen. 3:20. You have a label that describes who you are, mom, or dad, etc. and we are to excel in that capacity but our first calling is to be a son or daughter of God. there is a purpose that far exceeds that of being a parent. If you have never had children you still have value because God calls you to be His child, His follower. Grow and continue to grow. Don't camp at any one success. God will change your name, you can go from a Saul to a Paul, but it comes from growth and maturity. "Change your character or change your name." Don't call yourself a born again Christian if you aren't going to behave like one. It's about relinquishing our old life and taking on a new one. Our duty is to represent Him and exalt His name. Have we bowed our knee to that Name which is above every name? Acts 3:25 through Jesus Christ we can grow healthy families and good relationships. Luke 15:12 the prodigal son wanted something. He said "Give me..." We are raising some prodigals of our own, giving them what they want because it will make them happy. Happiness is not a sign of a mature follower of Christ, joy is. None of us come to Christ without being selfish; we heard about Him and said, "I want Him." We want what He has to offer, peace, joy, security... and that's okay, but there needs to be discipleship and that will inconvenience us as a church. We need to allow God to use us here and now, not somewhere down the line. Psalm 139:23-24 search me and see if there is any wicked way in me. When we stop listening to each other it's just a matter of time before we stop listening to God. Do you let other Christians speak into your life? We know through our born again experience that we are children of God, may our prayer to Him be, "Make me a servant." Jesus, the Son of God became a servant, and He is our example. We will grow healthy families when we become servants to others. Don't let your past shame hold you back. Don't listen to the accuser of the brethren. Raise the name of Jesus over your life and he will use you to the glory of His name. We can make Him famous. Have you exchanged your shame for His righteousness?