



SNAPSHOTS OF MATURE FAITH

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mature faith recognizes that unity happens in the Lord (not in the flesh)

— vv. 2-5a

Next Step: this week I will make the first move in repairing an area of disunity at The Bridge

mature faith recognizes that peace is the result of released control

(not answered prayer) — vv. 6-7

mature faith grows the health of the mind — vs. 8

Next Step: this week I will fast from one area of unhealthy mental input

mature faith patterns itself after more matured faith — vs. 9

Next Step: this week I will identify and contact a potential mentor

mature faith is content to trust God to make a way — vv. 10-13

mature faith generously shares in the troubles of others — vv. 14-20

mature faith recognizes the power of Christian community — vv. 21-23

Next Step: tonight I will attend the Philippians Prayer Gathering in The Cafe from 5-6pm



Lesson Aim: To grow in our ability to recognize and choose mature faith.

Ice-breaker: Briefly describe one happy experience from your summer.

1. Reflecting back on Pastor Jeff's message, what was something that encouraged or challenged you?
2. **READ Philippians 4:1-4.** Paul has already recommended rejoicing in the Lord in chapter 3, yet he comes back to it in verse 4. What is so important about rejoicing?
3. What interferes with rejoicing and what can help you to rejoice?
4. **READ Philippians 4:5-7.** What is promised here when we choose to pray instead of worry?
5. **READ 1 Peter 5:7.** Peter tells us to cast our cares on the Lord because He cares for us. What may the Lord be inviting you to cast on Him?

6. **READ Philippians 4:8-9.** How does what we spend time thinking about affect how we feel? How do our thoughts feed our souls?
7. In verse 8, what types of things does Paul urge us to think about? What are some practical things we can do to think about those types of things more often?
8. **READ Philippians 4:10-20.** How does Paul describe the various ways that the church in Philippi has cared for him? Why is it important for different parts of the body of Christ to show concern and care for each other?
9. Sometimes verse 13 is taken out of context and it is suggested that we can achieve anything through Christ. In the context, Paul seems to be suggesting that he can endure all things through Christ. What are the differences between achieving and enduring?

Each week we will offer a Scripture memory verse section related to the sermon. Memorizing Scripture is a key tool to resist temptation, make wise decisions, strengthen us under stress, comfort us when we're sad and to witness to those who don't know Christ.

Memory Verse(s) of the Week: Philippians 4:6-7