

Todd Arnett Maturing Followership 101 February 24, 2019

Maturing as you follow Jesus is based on a partnership between God and you

1. Healthy things **grow** 

Mark 4:8

This is where it begins for anyone who would become a follower of Jesus – there was not just a hearing of God's great news, but a reception to it that was the beginning of what we call "<u>discipleship</u>"

Matthew 9:9

2. Healthy things grow due to **<u>reliance</u>** and <u>**engagement**</u>

John 15:5

How much of my maturing, my growth in following Jesus closer, is on <u>me</u> and how much of it is what <u>Jesus</u> is providing for me?

"Does God expect me to be actively involved in my maturing following of Jesus?"

- <u>Yes</u>

"Will God provide me with the resources that I need in order to follow Jesus more closely?"

– <u>Yes</u>

To "continue to be present" is a lot like the meaning of the phrase that we looked at when we studied the book of Ephesians – "**be being filled**"

3. Identify **your** next step towards maturity

Matthew 19:21

There are <u>obvious</u> "next steps" that we need to begin with before we'll be able to follow Jesus more closely

Now What? Maturing as you follow Jesus is a based on a partnership between God and you



## Week of February 24, 2019

Our current series is on how we mature as a follower of Jesus. You can connect in a small group by coming to the "Welcome Center" or on our website.

Share It Get to know one another

Is there an experience where you saw observable growth as an athlete? Business? Profession? Student? Parent? Ministry? How did this happen?



**Study the Word** Learning to know God from the Bible

What are the early steps of becoming a disciple of Jesus? Read Mark 1:17-18; John 1:12; 3:16; Romans 10:9; 1 John 1:9.

"Maturing as you follow Jesus is based on a partnership between God and you." (Todd Arnett) What do we learn about the process and markers of discipleship? Mark 4:20

John 14:21; 15:5

Galatians 5:22-24

1 Peter 2:2-3

How are God and others involved in the process of growing as a disciple?

Read John 14:12-16 (What does this say to you?)

John 15:15-16 (What does this say to you?)

John 16:12-16 (What does this say to you?)?



**Discuss Together** Discuss how God can change our lives

How have you seen partnership between God and you?

When in your life do you remember significant growth as a disciple? What were the circumstances?

Is there an "obvious next step toward maturity for you?



## Time to Pray

Praying with and for one another helps us trust in God together. Please pray . . .

- For your global partners (some in difficult places)
- For people in your relational worlds
- For suffering people in our church family



## Apply It This Week A challenge to apply what we are learning

God loves you. Take time to ask Him to reveal a next step of discipleship for you.