**IT’S TIME TO GROW UP IN JESUS – PART I**

**Ephesians 4:11-15**

[**11**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Ephesians-4-11/)**And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;**

[**12**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Ephesians-4-12/) **For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:**

[**13**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Ephesians-4-13/) **Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:**

[**14**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Ephesians-4-14/) **That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;**

[**15**](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Ephesians-4-15/) **But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:**

**INTRO:**

**\*\*The Prophets were the preachers in the Old Testament, who foretold what God gave them to tell. We do not have prophets anymore.**

**\*\*The Apostles were preachers who had seen Jesus and had a personal one on one encounter with the Lord. We do not have apostles in this day.**

**\*\*We do have Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers. Why do we have them? What is the purpose? Verse 12 – 15 tells us, and it all has to do with growing up!**

**1. The Goal is to Grow Up and be Christians!**

 **a. We should grow up and be Close Christians**

**\*\*A Close Christian will do the Work of the Ministry (v-12) and the Worship of the Messiah (v-13).**

 **b. We should grow up and be Cultivated Christians**

**\*\*Cultivated means we have been developed or discipled.**

**\*\*This means you as the church has been Edified, Educated, Elevated, Enlightened, and Enriched through the preaching and teaching of God’s Word.**

**\*\*You can’t grow up in Jesus and as a Christian if you do not show up for class!**

**2. The Goal isn’t to Goof Up and be Childish**

**\*\*By the way, we’ve all goofed up at some point and were childish, but we do not have to stay there!**

**a. Some have been Childish and followed the False Doctrine**

**Ephesians 4:14a That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine,**

**b. Some have been Childish and followed the Foe’s Deceptions**

**Ephesians 4:14b . . . by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;**

**\*\*But look at Ephesians 4:15 again . . .**

**But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:**

**\*\*The message the Lord wants to get across to so many Christians today is, “IT’S TIME TO GROW UP IN JESUS!”**

**I. GROW UP AND BE INVITING**

**\*\*Here are three steps to Growing Up!**

 **A. Step 1: Invite Christ Into Your Heart**

**Romans 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.**

**\*\*Some Dive into Sin, Doze in Sin, Dream in Sin, Drink in Sin, Dope in Sin, Dress in Sin, and Dabble in Sin, and all it does is make you a goofed up child!**

**\*\*If you think for one minute you can live and lay in sin everyday or every day except Sunday and be right with God, then you are a goofed up childish lost sinner! However, there is a way out of sin, and the Lord loves helping goofed up childish sinners!**

 **1. Be Real**

 **a. Be Honest and Confess the Sins**

 **b. Be Humble and Confess the Savior**

 **2. Be Repentant**

**\*\*In order to repent and stop being childish, you must do two things:**

 **a. Leave the Sin**

 **b. Love the Savior**

 **3. Be Redeemed**

**\*\*You are redeemed through God’s Salvation, God’s Son, and God’s Spirit!**

**\*\*You’re no longer a goofed up child, but you are God’s child . . . once you are saved and living for God!**

 **B. Step 2: Invite Christ Into Your Home**

**Joshua 24:15 . . . but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**

 **1. Make the Lord Head in your Home**

 **2. Make the Lord Honored in your Home**

 **3. Make the Lord Holy in your Home**

 **C. Step 3: Invite Christ Into Your Hereafter**

**\*\*From hereafter and the rest of my life, I want Christ to be the main focus of my life!**

**\*\*Look at your history. Has the Savior been the mindset and the center of most of your history or has Sin been the mindset and the center of all of your history?**

**Philippians 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:**

**\*\*Grow up today and make up your mind that from here on out I’m going to stop being like a goofy kid, and from now on I’m going to invite Christ into my hereafter.**

 **1. I will train to have the Savior’s Mindset.**

 **2. I will train to have the Servant’s Mindset.**

**\*\*Don’t you think it’s time to Grow Up in Jesus?**

**CLOSE**

**\*\*Too many people have never grown up!**

**Take a Grown Up Step and Get God in your Life**

 **A. Get Him in your Heart**

 **B. Get Him in your Home**

 **C. Get Him in your Hereafter**

**Illustration: The French have a proverb, which states, “A good meal ought to begin with hunger.” It is hard to enjoy a meal when you are not yet hungry. But, when you are hungry, what has been prepared for you sure does taste good.**

**If we approach the Word with a hunger to be satisfied, we will be satisfied every time. Growing up begins with a hunger for God!**

**\*\*Are you hungry today and wanting God? You’ve been childish for too long and have put off getting right with God for too long. Grow up and come get God right now!**

**\*\*Are you hungry today and wanting Growth? You are a child of the King, but it is time to grow up and get off the Murk of the Wicked, get off the Milk of the Word, and get on the Meat of the Word.**

**\*\*If you think it’s time to grow up in Jesus then come pray!**