**In Christ** (graphic)

Ephesians 1-3: **Belief focused.**

Ephesians 4-6: **Behavior focused.**

**Mandatory Maturity**

(Ephesians 1:18)

“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order **that you may know** the hope to which **he has called you**,”

(Ephesians 4:1)

“As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I **urge** you to **live a life worthy** of the **calling** you have received.”

(Ephesians 4:2)

“Be completely **humble** and **gentle**; be **patient**, **bearing with one another** in **love**.”

1. Maturity starts with **humility**.
2. Maturity moves to be **meek**.
3. Maturity learns **long-suffering**.
4. Maturity is **bearing with one another**.
5. Maturity is rooted in **love**.

**Spiritual maturity** is the **consistent application of elementary things**. Not the **occasional** application of extraordinary things.

(Ephesians 4:3)

“**Make every effort** to keep the **unity** of the Spirit through the bond of **peace**.”

The means of **unity** begins with **personal maturity**.

(Ephesians 4:15)

“Instead, **speaking the truth in love**, we will **grow** to become in every respect the **mature** body of him who is the head, that is, **Christ**.”

**Speaking the truth in love** and **loving to speak the truth** are two different things.