

Marks Of A Mature Christian

1. Forgives everybody easily, quickly
 2. Is not easily offended
 3. Does not constantly replay hurts, wounds
 4. Is not passionate about material things
 5. Loves people who are much different
 6. Looks out for needs of others
 7. High level of trust in God low level of control over others
 8. Does not complain about leaders downline or gossip about fellow wounded soldiers
 9. Disciplined devotional life
 10. Not emotionally driven, controlled
 11. Thankful attitude
 12. Consistent at church, small group
 13. Does not “feed his flesh”
 14. Discerns wolf, jezebel, heretic
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* If you have not and do not crucify your flesh, you will be a baby Christian, self serving believer, and get “picked off” by the devil!

* listen to – [I am a soldier by D L Moody](#) (youtube)

1.) The highs and lows of life don't impact your relationship with God.

I love roller coasters. My favorite part is ascending to the apex, stalling for a moment or two, then taking a free fall only to begin the next ascension. What makes roller coasters awesome is the constant rise and fall. But this is not what makes Christianity awesome. I have seen too many people live for the mountaintop experience. They are up, then down. They are all in, then all out. They have an emotional high (conversion experience, weekend retreat, etc.), but when the high wears off, so does their relationship with God.

[Mature Christians don't ride a spiritual roller coaster. They are consistent.](#)

Mature Christians, however, do not allow the highs and lows of life to impact their walk with God. They are consistent. Oh, yes, they celebrate the mountaintop moments, but they do not rely on those moments to sustain their faith.

2.) You find value in the “dailiness” and trivial seasons of life.

Be patient in the mundane activities of life. God is still working. Whatever you do in secret, God will reveal in public. *Christine Caine*

I call this the iPhone complex. It is an exhausting mentality where someone lives every day waiting for the next big thing. We love the iPhone...until the next year when the new one comes out that is basically the same phone. .

Similarly, so many people love their church or situation in life...until the church down the road is doing new awesome stuff or until their current situation loses its luster.

When nothing “awesome” is happening, many Christians leave or give up. They believe every day is supposed to be a day when God rocks the world. Mature Christians understand the value in mundane and trivial seasons.

3.) You are at peace with situations beyond your control.

I argue this is one of the most underrated marks of spiritual maturity. Just turn on the tv. Do it now. Step away from reading this post (but come back, of course), turn on the news, and watch.

Glad you are back. You probably watched sensationalized stories about ISIS, the downward spiral of our country, and everything in between. Are we living in dark days? Absolutely. Are the acts carried out by ISIS and other terror organizations awful? Beyond awful, they are heinous.

But mature Christians don't allow the latest buzz on the news to derail their lives. They don't waste time worrying and freaking out over situations beyond their control.

[Mature Christians don't worry or freak out over situations beyond their control.](#)

They pray hard. They act on the situations they can control. But they don't allow a second of their day to be wasted on conspiracy theories or sensationalized new stories.

God's got this. He is sovereign over everything. That includes ISIS. That includes the apparent downfall of America. And as long as God's got this, there is no reason to freak out.

4.) You don't allow disciplines to take a back seat.

It never fails. If I reflect on a season of my life where I did not feel close to God, there was one constant: spiritual disciplines were lacking or non-existent.

Meditation. Bible study. Prayer. Solitude. Worship. Community. Confession. Fasting. These are non-negotiable for spiritual maturity and continued intimacy with God. People who struggle with consistency and intimacy in their walk with God are the ones that constantly place everything ahead of God. Spiritually mature Christians do not allow time or busyness to be excuses. They find time. They create space. They make whatever sacrifices necessary to live a spiritually disciplined life.

5.) You maintain a childlike sense of wonder and awe.

Going back to my boys again. Noah and Micah get excited about everything. Today, Micah found a Cheerio under the couch, put it in his mouth, and screamed, "I did it, mommy." Micah was ecstatic he found a Cheerio and ate it by himself.

As adults, we have a tendency to lose our childlike sense of wonder towards the world and our surroundings. Maybe this is why Jesus told his disciples we must become like little children to inherit the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 18:3). Children take risks. Children don't put up walls based on skin color. Children see the beauty and joy in life. Children find joy in eating Cheerios underneath the couch.

Mature Christians have a childlike nature. They don't easily become bored. They celebrate. They laugh. They don't put up walls. They view life as a gift. They see opportunity where others see failure. They have a healthy naivety.

Becoming a child doesn't mean you are immature. It means you refuse to accept the joyless, bored life that often associates adulthood.

6.) You do not compare yourself to others.

You are trying to feel right by comparing yourself to others. It is ridiculous! Who told you there was anything wrong with you in the first place? Don't you know that a human is just a human?*Donald Miller*

We live in a culture obsessed with looking at magazines and pictures of others and coveting their body, looks, and position in life. Our culture wants drives us to be the next _____, instead of being the person God designed them to be. This is toxic to joy and degrading to God. Comparison produces shame, bitterness, and frustration.

Spiritually mature Christians understand reaching their full potential does not come from looking horizontally at the world, but looking vertically to God.

[Mature Christians don't look horizontally for acceptance. They look vertically.](#)

7.) You listen to others who have a different viewpoint...with the goal of growing and not correcting.

Spiritually mature Christians glean insight from everyone. They have conversations with atheists, Muslims, Buddhists, Catholics, Baptists, and Pentecostals with the goal of learning.

This stands in stark contrast to some Christians who believe their job is to fix everyone who does not think like them. They are the spiritual "fix it" men (and women) who never leave home without their tool belt.

But not spiritually mature Christians. They understand their perspective is limited. They acknowledge God doesn't need spiritual police, he needs passionate followers. And followers are listeners. Followers are gleaners. Followers are convicted of their beliefs but are not so close-minded that everyone else is wrong. They understand listening to another viewpoint does not equate to condoning or accepting it.

8.) Your heart breaks for the poor and marginalized.

Jesus loved everyone. But Jesus had a special love for the marginalized. Maybe more than any other mark, this mark forms the dividing wall between Jesus and the Pharisees. Jesus loved those without a voice. The poor. The sick. The helpless. The Pharisees only loved those who could help them.

Mature Christians understand this distinction. Their hearts genuinely break for those in the world who don't have a voice. Their hearts hurt for the poor. They can't stand to see kids at school get picked on. They can't stand to think about boys and girls without parents. This is the heart of Christ. And it is the heart of mature Christians.

Mature Christians love those without a voice because they are close to God, and God is close to those without a voice.

9.) You understand Christianity doesn't have an on/off switch.

[Christian living doesn't have an "on/off" switch. Living for God is 24/7/365.](#)

Christian living does not have an "on/off" switch. Living for God is 24/7/365. Spiritually mature Christians do not find ways to compartmentalize God because He is not *part* of their life...He is their life (see Romans 12:1-2).

Mature Christians are constantly aware of their surroundings. They are constantly aware of opportunities God is presenting them to disciple, share, love, and comfort. Nothing is off limits. The grocery store. A restaurant. The church building. They believe God is always working, and they are not going to miss an opportunity.

10.) You have a sustainable rhythm to your life.

Mature Christians are not workaholics or lazy slobs. They are not under-achievers or over-achievers. They believe health is important. They find value in exercise. They find value in vacationing. They find value in a regular Sabbath. They find value in hobbies

Mature Christians root for their respective teams, but never allow the result to influence their emotions or mood. They understand living for Jesus and being the most effective servant possible means living holistically.