

SPIRITUAL MATURITY PROFILE

The New Testament depicts disciplemaking through metaphors such as: building, cultivating a field, running a race, and rearing a family, among others.

But, how do we know where we are in the process and what it looks like to mature into the next level in our discipleship toward Jesus?

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The following chart, "Spiritual Maturity Profile" by Ron Bennett, offers Biblical indicators that can serve as a starting point for evaluating where you (or your apprentice) are in this spiritual maturing process.

KEY BIBLICAL ATTRIBUTES OF A MATURING BELIEVER:

Trait/Indicator	Child	Adult	Parent
Commitment	To God's Word as truth (2 Timothy 3:16)	Christ as leader of life (Matthew 4:19)	Discipling others (Matthew 28:19-20)
	To God's family; identify with (Hebrews 10:24-25)	Serving others (Philippians 2:3-4)	Kingdom vision; God's heart for people everywhere (John 3:16; 2 Peter 3:9)
Competence	Fellowship with God through the Word and prayer and with others in God's family (1 John 1:1-3)	Feed themselves on God's Word; abiding in Christ (John 8:31-32; Hebrews 5:12)	Follow up of new believers (Hebrews 5:12)
	Share personal faith story with others (Acts 1:8)	Share the gospel with lost people, guiding them to personal faith in Christ (Romans 1:16)	Use of their gifts effectively (1 Corinthians 12:12-13)
Character	Sensitivity toward sin - an honesty with God and others (1 John 1:9)	Love for others, other focus; servant spirit (John 13:34-35)	Self-sacrificing (1 Thesalonians 2:8-9)
	Love for Christ (John 14:21)	Self control - exercising spiritual and personal disciplines (1 Timothy 4:7-8)	Godliness (1 Timothy 6:11; 4:12)
Conviction	Identify with Christ; loved, valuable in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17)	Living by faith and the power of His Spirit (Hebrews 11:6)	Worth of every individual (Romans 12:3-4)
	Authority and reliability of the Word (1 Peter 2:2; Hebrews 4:12)	Character of God; confident in His promises (2 Peter 1:3-4)	Value of spiritual generations; spiritual heritage (3 John 4; 2 Timothy 2:2)

Bennett, Ron. *Intentional Disciplemaking: Cultivating Spiritual Maturity in the Local Church*. NavPress, 2001.

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