

Katy Bible Church is committed to the ministry of the Word of God through authentic relationships, so all would mature in Jesus Christ for the glory of God.

What is maturity?

Maturity is the quality of being fully developed so as to manifest expected characteristics.

To be mature in Jesus Christ is to be who God designed us to be.

What does God expect from His people? (Deuteronomy 10:12–22)

God requires undivided allegiance (10:12–13).

“12 Now, Israel, what does the LORD your God **require** from you, but to ¹**fear** the Lord your God, to ²**walk** in all His ways and ³**love** Him, and to ⁴**serve** the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, 13 [and] to ⁵**keep** the Lord's commandments and His statutes which I am commanding you today for your good?”

God's unparalleled person and work is our motivation (10:14–19).

| | Since God has set His love on them, obey! (10:14–16) | Since the Lord cares for the needy have compassion! (10:17–19) |
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| The Lord's marvelous character | “Behold, to the Lord your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it” (10:14). | “For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe” (10:17). |
| The Lord's unique conduct | “Yet the Lord set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day” (10:15). | “He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing” (10:18). |
| The Lord's covenantal demand | “Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn” (10:16). | “Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt” (10:19). |

Summary (10:20–22).

God requires undivided allegiance (10:20).

“You shall **fear** the Lord your God. You shall **serve** him and **hold fast** to him, and by his name **you shall swear.**”

God’s unparalleled person and work is our motivation (10:21–22).

“He is **your praise**. He is **your God**, who has done for you these **great and terrifying things** that your eyes have seen. 22 Your fathers went down to Egypt seventy persons, and now the Lord your God has made you as **numerous** as the stars of heaven.”

Maturity in Jesus Christ means that we will be like Him.

“For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined [to become] **conformed to the image of His Son**, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren” (Romans 8:29).

“whom [Christ] we proclaim, admonishing every person and teaching every person with all wisdom, so that we may present every person **complete in Christ**” (Colossians 1:28).

“until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature adulthood, to **the measure of stature which is the fullness of Christ**” (Ephesians 4:13).

Jesus Christ loved God the Father.

“so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me” (John 14:31).

Jesus Christ loved others.

“Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma” (Ephesians 5:1–2).

Something has to change

“Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn” (Deuteronomy 10:16).

“and in Him [Christ] you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ; 12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead” (Colossians 2:11–12).

Conclusion

“The conclusion, when all has been heard, [is]: fear God and keep His commandments, because this [applies to] every person. 14 For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil” (Ecclesiastes 12:13–14).

What does God expect from us?

Love God.

“But his **delight** is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he **meditates** day and night” (Psalm 1:2).

“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart **be acceptable** in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my Redeemer” (Psalm 19:14).

“**Against You, You only, I have sinned** and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified when You speak and blameless when You judge” (Psalm 51:4).

“As the deer pants for the water brooks, so my soul **pants** for You, O God. My soul **thirsts** for God, for the living God The LORD will command His lovingkindness in the daytime; and His song will be with me in the night, a prayer to **the God of my life**” (Psalm 42:1, 8).

“**Trust** in the LORD and **do good**; **Dwell** in the land and **cultivate faithfulness**. **Delight** yourself in the LORD, And He will give you the desires of your heart. **Commit** your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it” (Psalm 37:3–5).

“For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself; for if we live, **we live for the Lord**, or if we die, **we die for the Lord**; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's” (Romans 14:7–8).

“This is eternal life, that they may **know** You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent” (John 17:3).

“I have been **crucified** with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but **Christ lives in me**; and the [life] which I now live in the flesh **I live by faith** in the Son of God , who loved me and gave Himself up for me” (Galatians 2:20).

“Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, **keep seeking** the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 **Set your mind** on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. 3 For you have died and **your life is hidden with Christ in God**. 4 When **Christ, who is our life**, is revealed, then you also will be **revealed with Him** in glory” (Colossians 3:1–4).

“Paul, looking intently at the Council, said, ‘Brethren, I have lived my life with a perfectly **good conscience before God** up to this day’” (Acts 23:1).

“For to me, **to live is Christ** and to die is gain?” (Philippians 1:21).