

Life Group Lesson - Week of August 6

For background, Read 1 Corinthians 2:6-12

As our plain truth states, refusing to grow beyond our spiritual adolescence is a Credo Killer. Becoming a follower of Christ and availing ourselves to the fellowship, ministry and mission of a local church is like a marriage: we commit to one another. When the 'honeymoon' is over we don't just quit because we get our feelings hurt, don't get our way, or fall under some disillusion. Maturity is the goal. But many people live their entire lives spiritually immature.

Read 1 Corinthians 2:13 – 3:11

Credo Killers—

The apostle Paul wanted to give 'solid food' to believers in the church at Corinth. As followers of Christ they should have been ready for deeper living, but instead still acted like children. Paul said, "I had to talk as though you belonged to this world or as though you were infants in the Christian life" (v1b). As with Adam and Eve (and Cain) in the beginning, spiritual adolescence causes us to pass the blame and misplace our anger. At some point, it's time to grow up.

1. **Adolescent Spirituality.** When has this happened to you—"I'm unhappy with myself about _____, but I am going to take my anger out on _____"—When did you realize your immaturity? What finally helped you see what you were doing?
2. **Attitude.** Mature followers of Christ must 'check their attitude' at the door when it comes to our commitment to Christ and His church. But when I am so full of me, God cannot put any of Himself in me. What do the following Scriptures say about the issue of attitude, and more specifically, how to have a healthy attitude in our relationships?

Romans 15:1-5

Philippians 2:5-8

Colossians 3:12-15

1 Peter 5:5-9

3. **Altitude.** The world says *my* success is all about me. But Scripture says true success is about sacrifice. Being really successful does not mean I do anything I can to make it to the top, but I do everything I can to take as many as I can to the top with me. How are you currently investing in others? Also, why is it important to learn from our mistakes?
4. **Aptitude.** God gives us our talents and gifts to use for His glory. But too often we sit on these abilities and skills or perhaps squander them on the temporal things of this world. Have you totally surrendered to Christ? If so, how are you using the gifts He has equipped you with for His glory, in His church?
5. **Achievement.** This is perhaps the most subtle, seductive credo killer of all. When things are going well in our business, our family, even in the church, we subconsciously begin to think we don't need God. The Enemy deceives us and we drift away from the realization and total dependence upon the Lord. How can even once-mature followers of Christ digress as a result of achievement? In what ways does achievement cause churches to be unwilling to take on new risks for Christ's Kingdom?

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Plain Truth:

Refusing to _____ beyond your spiritual _____ is a Credo Killer.

What are the Primary Ways we get Stuck in Spiritual Growth?

- 1) _____ Spirituality
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____



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