

Christianity: Some Assembly Required

Ephesians 1:3
All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing** in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. (NLT)

Getting a Bigger Bike



Standing Firm

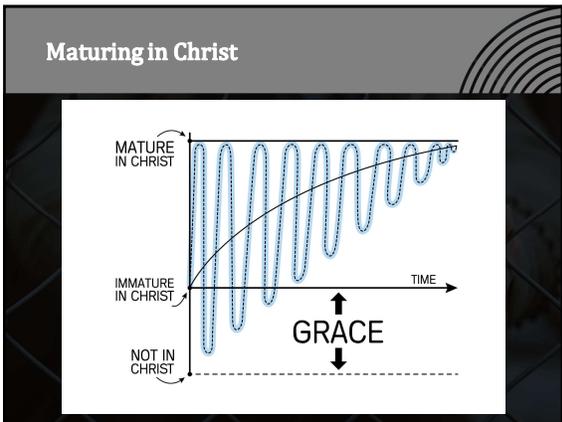
Ephesians 6:13
"Therefore, take up the full armour of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, **and having done everything, to stand firm.**" (ESV)

James 1:12
"God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterwards, **they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.**" (NLT)

Make Yourself Available

2 Corinthians 3:18:
"So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—**makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.**" (NLT)

Ephesians 4:14-15:
"So we are no longer to be children, tossed back and forth by waves and carried about by every wind of teaching by the trickery of people who craftily carry out their deceitful schemes. **But practising the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Christ, who is the head.**" (NET)



1. Acknowledge that there is a time for everything.

Ecclesiastes 3:2-8

- ² A time to give birth and a time to die;
- A time to plant and a time to uproot what is planted.
- ³ A time to kill and a time to heal;
- A time to tear down and a time to build up.
- ⁴ A time to weep and a time to laugh;
- A time to mourn and a time to dance.
- ⁵ A time to throw stones and a time to gather stones;
- A time to embrace and a time to shun embracing.
- ⁶ A time to search and a time to give up as lost;
- A time to keep and a time to throw away.
- ⁷ A time to tear apart and a time to sew together;
- A time to be silent and a time to speak.
- ⁸ A time to love and a time to hate;
- A time for war and a time for peace. (NASB)

1. Acknowledge that there is a time for everything.

Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it.
- Charles R. Swindoll

Your starting point determines your outcome.

2 Corinthians 2:14
"But thanks be to God, who **always leads us in triumph in Christ**, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place." Now that's a great place to start. (NASB)

2. Crack the Test

1. Instructions
2. Obedience
3. Attitude

2. Crack the Test: Instructions

Numbers 20:8-12 (NLT)
"You and Aaron must **take the staff and assemble the entire community**. As the people watch, **speak to the rock over there, and it will pour out its water**. You will provide enough water from the rock to satisfy the whole community and their livestock." So Moses did as he was told. He took the staff from the place where it was kept before the Lord. Then he and Aaron summoned the people to come and gather at the rock."

2. Crack the Test: Obeying Instructions

Numbers 20:8-12 (NLT)
"**Listen, you rebels!**" he shouted. "Must we bring you water from this rock?" Then **Moses raised his hand and struck the rock twice with the staff**, and water gushed out. So the entire community and their livestock drank their fill."

2. Crack the Test: Obeying Instructions

Numbers 20:8-12 (NLT)

But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "**Because you did not trust me enough** to demonstrate my holiness to the people of Israel, **you will not lead them into the land I am giving them!**"

2. Crack the Test: Attitude

Numbers 14:23

"**They will never even see the land I swore to give their ancestors. None of those who have treated me with contempt** will ever see it." (NLT)

3. Do What You've Got to Do

James 1:5

"But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and **it will be given to him.**" (NASB)

4. Find Someone to Walk With

Hebrews 10:24-25

"Let us think of ways to **motivate one another to acts of love and good works**. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but **encourage one another**, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near." (NLT)

James 5:16

"**Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.** The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results." (NLT)

5. Find God

- Worship
- Find God in the secret place

James 1:2-4

"Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, **consider it an opportunity for great joy**. For you know that when your faith is tested, **your endurance has a chance to grow**. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, **you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.**" (NLT)