



## “Maturing for Kingdom Ministry”

Bishop Frank and JoeNell Summerfield

**Texts: Ephesians 4:1-16, I Corinthians 3:1-9, Luke 12:41-48, I Timothy 3:15-16, Hebrews 13:7, II Corinthians 5:17-21**

Many people attend church, and even receive salvation, but never learn and practice their God ordained calling to Kingdom Ministry. In fact many never grow and mature spiritually enough to know what **Serving in Kingdom Ministry** means. Some people think only Pastors and preachers are called to ministry and no one else. They think ministry only consists of preaching behind a pulpit. In actuality being called by God to Kingdom Ministry is so much bigger than that. It's as large as the number of people you impact. In fact salvation itself can only happen from God calling you into it before the foundation of the world, and before you were in your mother's womb. See Jeremiah 1:4-5.

It comes from the very divine purpose God created for your life and involves being used by God to win other souls to the kingdom, deliver creation, and bless whoever has contact with and exposure to your life and witness.

**Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:  
4: According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame**

**before Him in love:**

**5: Having predestined us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself according to the good pleasure of His will.**

**Romans 8:29 For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that He might be the first born among many brethren.**

**30: Moreover whom He did predestinate, them He also called: and whom He called, them He also justified: and whom He justified, them He also glorified.**

The word **called** comes from the Greek word **kaleh-o** and means: as a shepherd calls his flock, to call authoritatively into existence, to summons, to appoint, to choose, figuratively as God calling things that are not as though they already were into existence.

God has called kingdom believers into salvation for a vocation, career, or service in Kingdom Ministry to win souls, and deliver creation as Romans 8:19-22 declares.

**Romans 8:19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.**

**20: For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of Him who hath subjected the same in hope.**

**21: Because the creature itself also shall**

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**be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.**

**22: For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.**

In order to **Mature for Kingdom Ministry** you must be taught the word of God with sound revelation knowledge coming from God's chosen spiritual leader as indicated in Jeremiah 3:15, and Jeremiah 23:3-4.

**Colossians 2:6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:**

**7: Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.**

Now let's dig deeply into the Apostle Paul's Ministry Training Epistle to the Ephesian believers in Ephesians 4.

He begins this Training to **Mature for Kingdom Ministry** Epistle with emphasis on **humility, unity, meekness, longsuffering, love**, and the **vocation** we are called to through our salvation. Most people think that being called is for Pastors and pulpit preachers only. But in fact every saved believer is only saved because they are called by God into

Kingdom Ministry. Please be aware that vocation comes from the Greek word **klayisis** and means: **divine calling from God, and official summons** you have to respond to in order to avoid judgement, it means life time career service.

So we're not called to just attend and sit in church.

**Ephesians 4:1 I therefore the prisoner of the Lord beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called.**

Please refer to the word called as discussed earlier in terms of the original Greek word and its meaning.

**2: With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love.**

**3: Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**

**4: There is one body and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling.**

**11: And He gave some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers.**

**12: For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry for the edifying of the body of Christ:**

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Please realize that God wants to develop and mature you for Kingdom Christian service to deliver lost creation. Also perfecting comes from the Greek word **kartartismas** and means: to prepare or out fit for emergency, to equip for service.

We can't do the work of ministry without fully equipped and matured people. It's the work of the ministry that edifies and impacts the Body of Christ worldwide.

**13: Till all we come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.**

Please note that the word perfect comes from the Greek word teleios and means: complete in various applications of labour, growth and moral character of full age man, adulthood, full grown, mature in mind, and understanding in knowledge of the truth in Christian service, faith and virtue without wavering to the end.

It takes spiritually mature people to do Kingdom Ministry that reaches souls and impacts the lives of people.

God desires that we be fully developed to the same life that Jesus lived on earth and lives through us now. See II Corinth. 4:10-11, and

John 14:12.

**14: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;**

We must grow up and mature in all things needed for Kingdom Ministry.

**15: But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him all things, which is the head, even Christ:**

**16: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.**

We must unify and compact ourselves together as one common thrust of spiritual force and energy to reach creation for God with every event, program, and ministry activity we engage in. We must think enlargement and growth to do large things that reach the masses of humanity and creation. We must think Acts 1:8 with everything we do.

**Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both**

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**in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

**Isaiah 54:1 Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord.**

**2: Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes;  
3: For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.**

People who are **Mature for Kingdom Ministry** have complete control of their temperament and tongue at all times and speak things that edify others and not discourage and tear them down. See Ephesians 4:26-27, 29-32. What are you speaking to people? Are you Mature for Kingdom Ministry?

**Ephesians 4:26 Be ye angry and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:  
27: Neither give place to the devil.  
29: Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that**

**it may minister grace unto the hearers.  
30: And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.  
31: Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:  
32: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.**

People who are **Mature for Kingdom Ministry** have developed Godly Wisdom and spiritual understanding for the work of the ministry to operate in Excellence. See Ephesians 1:17-19, Colossians 1:9-11, and Philippians 1:10-11.

People who are **Mature for Kingdom Ministry** have been taught and know how to endure till the end of the earth and the return of Jesus and avoid the word famine that's coming on the earth.

**Revelation 2:25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.  
26: And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:  
27: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received**

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of my Father.

**Amos 8:11 Behold the days come saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord:**

**12: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it.**

### Types of People in Church

1. Spectators- people who attend occasionally and just watch. Zero service to others.
2. Members- people who join and sit in seats, but never function and serve in any area of ministry service. Zero service to others.
3. Mature Kingdom Servants- do the work of the ministry that impacts the lives of creation and humanity. They do their service with excellence as unto the Lord whether paid or not. They follow the Faith of the Visionary and spiritual leader. See Ephesians 6:5-7, Colossians 3:22-24, Philippians 1:10-11, and Hebrews 13:7. They serve others continually.

As we draw closer to the Lord Jesus' return we that **Mature for Kingdom Ministry** must be

knowledgeable of and sensitive to the End Time Prophetic word that requires us to do certain things that help people to be drawn and won to the kingdom of God before time runs out. Joel 1:14-15, and Joel 2:1-18 are good examples of the spiritual activity we are charged to engage in to deliver people into God's kingdom before time runs out.

It takes a certain amount of spiritual maturity to make the kind of relentless sacrifices required by people **Maturing for Kingdom Ministry.**

**Joel 1:14 Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land unto the house of the Lord your God, and cry unto the Lord. 15: Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.**

These verses clearly indicate that the mature kingdom servant leaders must gather together and sacrificially seek God's face in prayer and fasting to get people in creation into God's kingdom before the day of destruction and return of the Lord Jesus.

**Joel 2:1 Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is**

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nigh at hand;

**2: A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.**

**3: A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them.**

Joel declares that this end time people will be greater than any before or that will ever come in representing God’s End Time Army of mature servant deliverers that shall deliver God’s people when the day of the Lord comes.

**10: The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.**

**11: And the Lord shall utter His voice before His army: for His camp is very great: for He is strong the excuteth His word: for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?**

**12: Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting and with weeping and with mourning.**

Those who are **Mature for Kingdom Ministry** are willing to sacrifice and fast, pray, and weep for others to be delivered. They understand their End Time Kingdom assignment.

**13: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.**

**14: Who knoweth if He will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind Him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the Lord our God?**

**15: Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly:**

We who **Mature for Kingdom Ministry** must gather creation into the House of God and the Kingdom before the day of the Lord comes.

**16: Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet.**

**17: Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord weep between the porch and the alter, and let them say, spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to**

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**reproach, that the heathen should rule  
over them: wherefore should they say  
among the people, Where is their God?**

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