

**“Growing in Maturity in Prayer and Pursuit” 4/03/11**  
**James 5:13-20**

**James- Pressing on Toward Spiritual Maturity**

The spiritually mature will: 1) be patient in trials/testing; 2) practice the truth (through loving others; 3) control the tongue; 4) be a peacemaker, not a trouble maker; submissive; 5) be mature with money and in prayer (Warren Wiersbe on book of James)

**Main Point- Believers will demonstrate maturity through consistently praying in all circumstances and in pursuing other believers who wander from the truth.**

**POINT 1-** The spiritually mature will be actively involved in PRAYER

- A. The spiritually mature will consistently pray during times of TROUBLE (5:13a; James 1:2-12; 2 Corinthians 12:7-9; for relief and grace to endure)
- B. The spiritually mature will consistently pray during times of JOY (5:13b; Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; Phil 4:4; Nehemiah 8:10)

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. (Col 3:16)*

- C. The spiritually mature will consistently pray during times of SICKNESS (5:14-15; John 5:5-14; 1 Cor 11:30-32; Mark 2:1-12; 1 John 5:16-17)
- D. The spiritually mature will consistently pray during times of DROUGHT (5:16-18; 1 Kings 17:1-18:41-45; Luke 4:25; James 1:5-8)

**Going** *God wants you to be seeking and thanking Him at all times!*  
**Deeper**

**POINT 2-** The spiritually mature will be actively involved in PURSUIT

- A. The pursuit of a wandering believer can have powerful CONSEQUENCES (5:19-20; Luke 22:32; Phil 2:3; 1 Cor 10:12; 5:12; Galatians 6:1-2; Acts 5)

**Going** *God wants us to care enough about our spiritual family to pursue them!*  
**Deeper**