

Spiritual Maturity Test: 4 Questions to Ponder

One of the great delights in life is to find new things God wants to show us.

I found a new online **study Bible** (thanks to friends Thor and Sue Ryan). is a marvelous site allowing instant access to original language and commentaries.

Since then, I've been studying Ephesians 4:9-16.

We start off with a word picture. **Christ**, if He ascended, must have descended. What? The word picture is this: Christ, becoming human and returning to heaven—complete. Then humans, being tossed by the waves and blown by every wind, growing up, with the goal of being mature—complete like Christ.

In the middle, we find that Christ gave us some people to help with our development. These people are **apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors** and **teachers**.

These **teachers** are supposed to train us for works of **ministry**.

One of the results of **maturity** is that we won't be sucked into teachings that are designed to pull people to an individual instead of point people to God. We will serve God's agenda and be able to see through deceptions.

Last, as we work together, becoming mature and each doing the ministry Christ has called us to, we will become a unit, building together in love, lifting each other up instead of tearing each other down.

Questions:

1. Do you know what ministry Christ has gifted you for? What is it?

2. How does doing ministry help you become more like Christ?
3. How does it “sew” the body (church) together when everyone does the jobs they are gifted for?
4. What evidence of spiritual maturity do you see in your life? Where is God still working?

Kim Martinez is a regular contributor to Ministry Today magazine's blog. She is a writer, speaker and ministry coach. You can hear more from her at .