

Pursuing Maturity

Overview

Spiritual maturity is imperative for all. For this reason we have established a training plan that focuses on the major areas of the Christian life: our personal walk with God, our knowledge of God's Word, and our service to our fellow man in serving our fellow Christians in the church and in serving non-Christians through the message of the good news of Jesus Christ.

Each major area of instruction in Pursuing Maturity involves a two-session 101 class and a six-session 201 class. The two-session Walking With God 101 is followed by the six-session Walking With God 201. Likewise with Giving To The Work and Going To The World. The exception to this plan is found in the Growing In The Word section, which is divided into three parts: Bible, Doctrine and Interpretation.

As we move from the 101 classes to the 201 classes, a more detailed level of instruction will provide a strong foundation in the fundamentals of the Christian faith. Divided up into manageable classes, we believe the Pursuing Maturity Training Plan is something that each and every person at Valley Bible Church can complete in time.

This training plan to become equipped to serve the Lord well through Valley Bible Church is comprehensive in nature, covering our vertical relationship to God through the Scripture and obedience and our horizontal relationships with fellow believers and those outside the church. As we walk with God and grow in the knowledge of His Word, we position ourselves well to contribute to His work in the church and in the world.

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Training Program

Valley Bible Church is committed to equipping the saints for the work of ministry (Ephesians 4:11). We believe that this process is enhanced by specific challenges. In order to move us toward maturity as a fellowship we have established a plan that deals with the four essential areas of the Christian life.

The most fundamental area of the Christian life is our walk with God. It is the very center of who we are and what we do. Since apart from Jesus Christ we can do nothing (John 15:5), we must attend to our relationship with God as our first priority. The other three focus on growing in the Word (learning the Bible), giving to the work (serving the church), and going to the world (evangelism).

While these areas are developed concurrently, our plan moves through a series of classes that start with Walking With God 101. Look in the weekly bulletin that we distribute at each worship service for information about attending the next Walking With God class.



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Pursuing Maturity Training Program

*A comprehensive plan
to equip each member
of Valley Bible Church
for the service
of Jesus Christ*

Pursuing Maturity Becoming Equipped At Valley Bible



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When to Start

We hold our Walking With God 101 class regularly, often with another one beginning every few weeks. Look to our weekly bulletin handed out at each worship service or visit our church website (www.valleybible.net) for information on the next class.

This class typically meets in room 104, downstairs in the two-story building, for two consecutive Sunday mornings and are usually led by one of our church elders, Lance Richards. All those who are newer to our church are encouraged to attend this class at their earliest convenience. This will launch you into the classes that will build a balanced overview of the essentials of Christian living.

If you would like to attend, you may just show up to the first meeting. The best time to start is now!

Where to Start

Walking With God 101

The Pursuing Maturity program begins at the center of the Christian life, with our two-hour Walking With God 101 class, which focuses on the message of the Bible. After completing this class, any other 101 level class may be taken, as well as the 201 level Walking with God class.

Other 101 level classes

Once you complete the Walking With God 101 class, the other 101 classes are available. Giving to the Work 101, Going to the World 101 and Growing in the Word 101 are each designed to encourage you toward a greater commitment to pursue maturity in each area. These two-hour classes will heighten the sense of importance of these essential areas of the Christian life and will stimulate you to pursuing maturity by learning more about how to obey God.

Other 201 level classes

Once you complete a 101 level class, the 201 level classes provide you with the opportunity for an in-depth study of these fundamental parts of following Christ. Each 201 level class consists of six one-hour classes and taken together are designed to provide a comprehensive foundation to our pursuit of maturity as a Christian.

Other 301 level classes

We will continue to teach on a wide variety of topics in our adult education ministry. These classes have no prerequisites but nevertheless are built upon the foundation of the background of our Pursuing Maturity Program.

		Overview of the Pursuing Maturity Training Plan					
		Walking With God	Giving To The Work	Going To The World	Growing In The Word		
					Bible	Doctrine	Interpretation
101	2 hours of classes	Why we should walk with God: A devotional life of prayer and God's Word	Why we should give to the work: Our ministry philosophy	Why we should go to the world: The need for the gospel message	Why we should grow in the Word: Why knowing the Bible is important	Why we should grow in the Word: Why theology is important	Why we should grow in the Word: The value of reading the Bible with understanding
201	6 hours of classes	How to walk with God: The elements of the Christian life	How to give to the work: Key areas of ministry success	How to go to the world: Relational evangelism training	How to grow in the Word: An overview of the Old and New Testaments	How to grow in the Word: The key doctrinal issues facing the church	How to grow in the Word: Basic Bible study methods
301	Various classes	Classes on specific life issues	Teacher training classes	Evangelism Explosion	Classes on specific Bible books	Classes on certain doctrinal subjects	Classes on advanced hermeneutical principles