

# Godliness, Maturity and Spiritual Depth

by K.P. Yohannan

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*True spiritual growth and maturity come from God working in us, not just acquiring knowledge or information.*

**Scripture:** Psalm 103:12, Isaiah 45:9, Romans 8:1, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 2:8-9, Philippians 1:6, Colossians 3:13, Hebrews 4:16, James 1:4, 1 John 1:9

**Topics:** "Forgiveness", "Spiritual Growth"

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## Description

K.P. Yohannan emphasizes the importance of understanding and accepting God's forgiveness for all sins, past, present, and future, which can be difficult for many to believe. He encourages believers to live in a state of forgiveness towards themselves and others, reminding them that spiritual maturity and depth come from God's work within us rather than mere knowledge. Patience with oneself is crucial, as growth in Christ's image takes time, and we should not be discouraged by our shortcomings. Yohannan illustrates this with the example of Jesus' patient response to Peter after his denial, highlighting that God sees our potential beyond our failures. Ultimately, we must accept God's grace and allow Him to mold us into who He wants us to be.

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## Transcript

Sixth, know that no matter what, you are forgiven. Sometimes that is the hardest thing to believe. All the sins you have ever committed, all the sins you are committing now and all the sins you will ever commit until the last second of your life are forgiven. They have all been taken care of. All you need to do is acknowledge that work of God and live by it. Don't hold things against your self. Live with forgiveness for yourself and others on a constant basis. Because of the blood of Jesus, we can "come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16).

Finally, have patience with yourself. Philippians 1:6 says, "Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ" (emphasis added).

Sometimes we get so discouraged and so impatient with ourselves. We can't see any good fruit being produced in our lives, and it tempts us to just give up. But we must remember that it takes time to be molded into the image of Christ.

Godliness, maturity and spiritual depth do not come through reading books and acquiring information. Often our problem is that we know so much. We know about what it means to be a good husband, a good father and a hard worker in the ministry. We know about being burdened by the Lord and about humility

and brokenness. I know so many things in my head, yet still I long in many areas of my life to be the message I am preaching.

Rather, it is God working in us that brings maturity. The problem is in here, on the inside. I need to let the Lord work on me. I cannot do it, but God has a plan and a perfect way. He is the potter; I am the clay. With this understanding, I don't have to get all bent out of shape and be unforgiving with myself. I can know the Lord is working with me.

Keep in mind how Jesus responded to Peter after he denied Him. Jesus did not focus on Peter's mistake, but He saw beyond that, knowing what He was going to make him. Jesus was patient with Peter.

And just as God has patience with us, we must have patience with ourselves. We need to be objective and honest about our real condition, dismal as it may be. Yet we also must be willing to live with that truth and accept God's grace to change us instead of trying to correct ourselves (see Isaiah 45:9).

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