

Senior Moments:

Oh, Grow Up!

*I write to you, dear children,
because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name.*

¹³ *I write to you, fathers,
because you have known him who is from the beginning.*

*I write to you, young men,
because you have overcome the evil one.*

*I write to you, dear children,
because you have known the Father.*

¹⁴ *I write to you, fathers,
because you have known him who is from the beginning.*

*I write to you, young men,
because you are strong,*

*and the word of God lives in you,
and you have overcome the evil one.*

1 John 2:12-14 (NIV)

IF YOU THINK YOU CAN'T OR WON'T EVER BE A SPIRITUAL GIANT, YOU HAVE PROBABLY FALLEN FOR SOME FAMILIAR MYTHS...

1. Spiritual growth is _____.

You have been Christians a long time now, and you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things a beginner must learn about the Scriptures. You are like babies who drink only milk and cannot eat solid food.

Hebrews 5:12 (NLT)

TRUTH = Spiritual growth is _____.

2. Spiritual maturity is _____ by a select _____.

TRUTH = Spiritual maturity is a _____ matter.

Do not waste time arguing over godless ideas and old wives' tales. Spend your time and energy in training yourself for spiritual fitness.

1 Timothy 4:7 (NLT)

We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn. ¹² In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! ¹³ Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:11-14 (NIV)

3. Spiritual maturity is a matter of finding the right _____.

TRUTH = Spiritual maturity is a _____ that takes _____.

"Take the time and trouble to keep yourself spiritually fit."

1 Tim. 4:7 (Ph)

The Holy Spirit's transformative work within us is mystical, not magical. As such, he works within us as we work with him. Spiritual growth requires time and energy.

-Tozer

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

Philippians 2:12-13(NIV)