

Outgrowing Our Training Pants

1 Corinthians 3:1-4

God’s goal for spiritual babies is to _____ !

Prolonged spiritual infancy is _____.

cf. Ephesians 4:12-16 & Hebrews 5:11-6:2

Contextual hooks: “The natural man... the spiritual man...”

Characteristics of spiritual infancy

1. Just _____ again into spiritual life

“brethren” “babes” “in Christ”

2. Not growing _____, just growing _____

“Indeed, even now you are not yet able!”

Unhealthy spiritual *growth*: Growing old without growing _____ -
in knowledge AND grace.

cf. Hebrews 5:12 “By this time you ought to be _____.”

1 Corinthians 14:20

3. Not growing _____, just growing _____

“men of flesh” - *sarkikos*: *controlled by* _____

cf. Ephesians 4:14-16

Identifying marks of immaturity:

“fleshly... _____ and _____ ... like mere men...”

4. Not growing up, just going _____

• Prolonged _____ “I gave you milk.”

• Eating w/o _____ “by practice have their senses _____”

Hebrews 4:15 Training is...

• _____ diet “...milk, not solid food... I’m of Paul...”

Identifying marks of immaturity:

“ _____ am of...” “ _____ am of...”

Challenge: “No longer be children... grow up in Christ...” Ephesians 4:14

Check your growth _____



Outgrowing Our Training Pants

1 Corinthians 3:1-4

God’s goal for spiritual babies is to grow up!

Prolonged spiritual infancy is unhealthy.

cf. Ephesians 4:12-16 & Hebrews 5:11-6:2

Contextual hooks: “The natural man... the spiritual man...”

Characteristics of spiritual infancy

1. Just born again into spiritual life

“brethren” “babes” “in Christ”

2. Not growing up, just growing old

“Indeed, even now you are not yet able!”

Unhealthy spiritual *growth*: Growing old without growing wise -
in knowledge AND grace.

cf. Hebrews 5:12 “By this time you ought to be teachers.”

1 Corinthians 14:20

3. Not growing up, just growing selfish

“men of flesh” - *sarkikos*: controlled by flesh

cf. Ephesians 4:14-16

Identifying marks of immaturity:

“fleshly... jealousy and strife... like mere men...”

4. Not growing up, just going hungry

• Prolonged nursing “I gave you milk.”

• Eating w/o exercise “by practice have their senses trained”

Hebrews 4:15 Training is...

• Selective diet “...milk, not solid food... I’m of Paul...”

Identifying marks of immaturity:

“I am of...” “I am of...”

Challenge: “No longer be children... grow up in Christ...” Ephesians 4:14

Check your growth marks

