

[MESSAGE NOTES]

True North: A Journey through 1 Corinthians
Week 4 — *Grown Adults, Spiritual Infants* (1 Cor. 3:1-15)

Message Notes:

[QUICK REVIEW]

Looking at your notes from this week's message, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

[MY STORY]

It seems that maturity is at a premium in our day and age. People are more revered for their ability to speak or lead or make money than their character and depth and maturity—these things are too often an afterthought. **Who is the most mature person you know? Who is it you want to be like when you grow up? What qualities make you want to be like them?**

[DIGGING DEEPER]

As we learn in our passage from 1 Corinthians 3 this week, sometimes our churches are filled with people who have not grown up in the faith. They are too often full of people who are coming to be fed milk, when over time they should be growing into disciples who can feed themselves and others solid food. **Read Colossians 1:28-19 and Luke 6:39-40. What is the goal of both Jesus and Paul in these passages?**

Maturity in Christ can be described in many different ways. For example, some words that are often used are sanctification, holiness, spiritual formation, building character, instilling virtue, etc. Regardless of the language used, the goal is clear: **we are called to grow up into Christlikeness.** There are many different paradigms and tools that have been created to help people identify where they might be at in the journey toward Christlikeness, and for this week we are going to use one from the resource *4-Chair Discipleship* by Dann Spader. In his book, he describes four different “chairs” that are patterns of growth and maturity found in scripture. **As you read the table below, ask yourself: “what chair am I in at this point in my faith?”**

	CHAIR 1	CHAIR 2	CHAIR 3	CHAIR 4
<i>Challenge</i>	“Come and see.” –John 1:39	“Follow me.” –John 1:43	“Follow me... fish for people.” –Matthew 4:19	“Go and bear fruit.” –John 15:16
<i>Description</i>	Dead/Lost	Child	Adolescent	Parent
<i>Biblical Name</i>	Seeker	Believer	Worker	Disciple-maker
<i>Basic Needs</i>	CPR	Milk	Meat/Solid Food	Meat/Solid Food
<i>Other Needs</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gospel ● Answers ● Christian Friends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identity ● Explanation ● Parenting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ministry ● Opportunity ● Peers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wisdom ● Other models ● Mentors
<i>Language</i>	“I” oriented	“I” oriented	“We” oriented	“Others” oriented

If you are having a hard time pinpointing which chair you might be in, or if you want an additional challenge that takes some extra courage, **Ask someone you know well in your group or in your life: “which chair do you see me in most often?”**

Here’s the good news–God is with you regardless of what chair you find yourself sitting in! Allow yourself some grace, but as you wrap up this reflection exercise, **What is one practical next step with Jesus that you could take in order to continue moving in the direction of the next “chair” of discipleship in your faith?** If you are struggling to come up with one, brainstorm with your community and/or reach out to the staff here at FIRST—we’d always love to help you discern your next steps with Jesus!

[WEEKLY READINGS]

Studies say that someone who reads their Bible 4 times or more a week improves their joy, happiness, contentment, and overall approval of their life. (1 Tim. 4:8-10,16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17). As a church, we believe that! Below are 4 passages of Scripture this week to dive into to pull deeper on our weekend’s message.

1 Corinthians 3

Galatians 5

Ephesians 4

Colossians 2