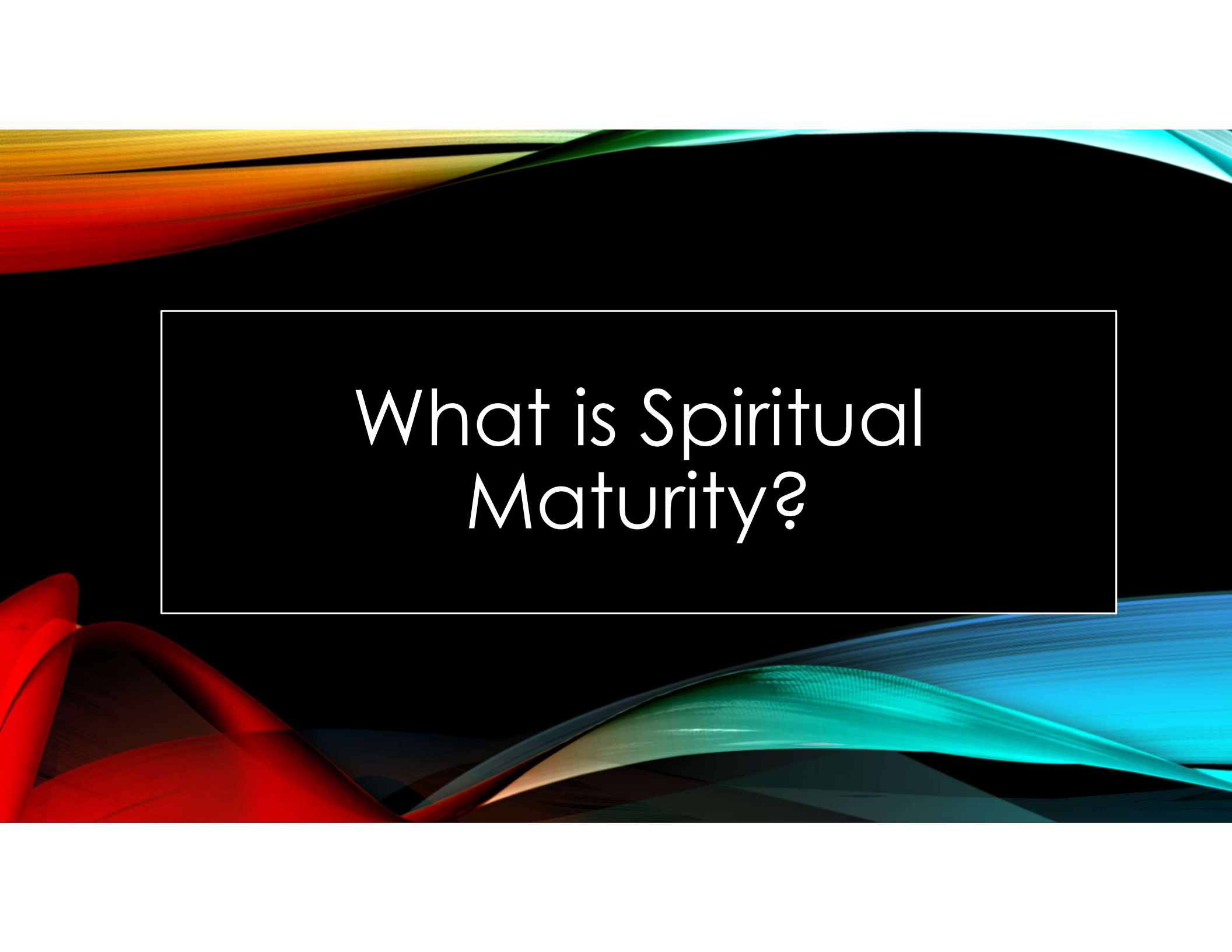




What is Spiritual
Maturity?



WHAT IS MATURITY?

- A spiritually mature Christian is one who has a relationship with Christ **in which they trust Him, worship Him, love Him and obey Him.**
- One who has reached a point in their life where they realize that following God's way will produce the ultimate peace and joy in their life.
- **Galatians 2:20**
I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but **Christ lives in me**; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh **I live by faith in the Son of God**, who loved me and gave Himself for me.



How can we become
mature?

HOW TO BECOME SPIRITUALLY MATURE

Examine self

- 2 Cor. 13:5
 - “Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? - unless indeed you are disqualified.”

HOW TO BECOME SPIRITUALLY MATURE

Have a goal

- 2 Cor. 3:18
 - And we all, with unveiled face,
***beholding the glory of the Lord, are
being transformed into the same image***
from one degree of glory to another.
For this comes from the Lord who is the
Spirit

HOW TO BECOME SPIRITUALLY MATURE

Be transformed

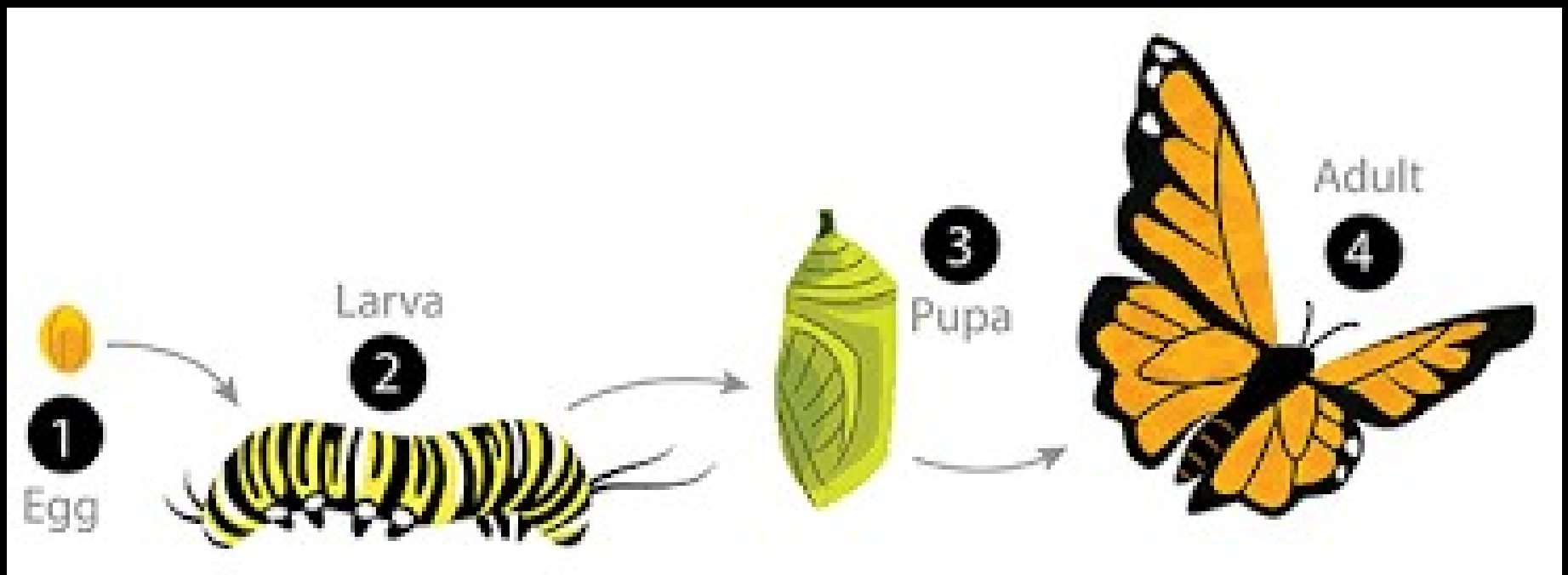
- Rom. 12:2
 - “And do not be conformed to this world, but ***be transformed by the renewing of your mind***, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”



TRANSFORMATION

- **“Ttransformed”** comes from the Greek word metamorphoō, which is the source of the English noun “metamorphosis.”
- The noun describes the process of transformation from an immature form to an adult form in distinct stages, such as the caterpillar to butterfly.

The Butterfly, a good example of metamorphosis



HOW DOES TRANSFORMATION TAKE PLACE?

- **By the renewing of our mind (Rom. 12:2)**

- Rom. 12:1–2 NKJV

- 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.
- 2 And do not be conformed to this world, **but be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

HOW DOES TRANSFORMATION TAKE PLACE?

- *“By the renewing of your mind”*
 - *“A flushing out of the old and adding the new”*
 - *Example: restarting a PC*



The blessings of maturity



MATURITY BRINGS A CHANGE

Fear is changed – to love

- 1 Jn. 4:17–19 NKJV
 - Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world.
 - *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.*
 - We love Him because He first loved us.



MATURITY BRINGS

Acceptable worship

- The immature think that worship is about them.
- The mature worship God (Jn. 8:24).



MATURITY BRINGS

Faithfulness

- The immature blame PEOPLE!
- Maturity brings the right focus – on Jesus (Heb. 12:2)



MATURITY BRINGS

The right purpose in life

- The world judges a person by looks, wealth, education and position.
- Maturity produces the real view.
 - Made in the image of God, “chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation”



MATURITY BRINGS

Comfort in death

- Heb. 2:14
 - “Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.”



MATURITY BRINGS

**Why is there comfort in death? Because we have
The assurance of salvation**

- 1 Jn. 5:13 “These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, **that you may know that you have eternal life**, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.”



MATURITY BRINGS

The assurance of salvation

Romans 8:16 (NKJV)

- ¹⁶The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

Why is there comfort in death? Because we know what awaits us

- No death, separation, pain or suffering (Rev. 21:4)
- No sin (Rev. 21:8)
- Only the righteous (Rev. 21:27)



MATURITY BRINGS

- An understanding of trials
- An acceptance of true doctrine
- Accepting truth concerning morals
- A controlling of speech
- A putting away of the past
- A profit from criticism