

### Emotional Maturity Identification

✓ **Emotional Infant**

*I am consistently driven by a need for instant gratification, often using others as objects to meet my needs. When trials, hardships, or difficulties come, I want to quit God and the Christian life and run.*

✓ **Emotional Child**

*When life is going my way, I am content. However, as soon as disappointment or stress enter the picture, I quickly unravel inside. I often take things personally, interpreting disagreements or criticism as a personal offense.*

✓ **Emotional Adolescent**

*I often make quick judgments and interpretations of people's behavior. I withhold forgiveness to those who sin against me, avoiding or cutting them off when they do something to hurt me. I subconsciously keep records on the love I give out.*

✓ **Emotional Adult**

*I respect and love others without having to change them or becoming judgmental. I value people for who they are, not for what they can give me or how they behave. I take responsibility for my own thoughts, feelings, goals, and actions.*

*It is not possible to be spiritually mature while remaining emotionally immature.*

### **Exodus 13:17-18 (New Living Translation)**

*When Pharaoh finally let the people go, God did not lead them along the main road that runs through Philistine territory, even though that was the shortest route to the Promised Land. God said, "If the people are faced with a battle, they might change their minds and return to Egypt." So God led them in a roundabout way through the wilderness toward the Red Sea. Thus the Israelites left Egypt like an army ready for battle.*

### **Exodus 16:1-6,10-12 (New Living Translation)**

*Then the whole community of Israel set out from Elim and journeyed into the wilderness of Sin, between Elim and Mount Sinai. They arrived there ... one month after leaving the land of Egypt. There, too, the whole community of Israel complained about Moses and Aaron. ... Then the Lord said to Moses, "Look, I'm going to rain down food from heaven for you. Each day the people can go out and pick up as much food as they need for that day. I will test them in this to see whether or not they will follow my instructions. So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "In the morning you will see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaints, which are against him, not against us. What have we done that you should complain about us?" Then Moses added, "The Lord will give you meat to eat in the evening and bread to satisfy you in the morning, for he has heard all your complaints against him. Yes, your complaints are against the Lord, not against us." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Announce this to the entire community of Israel: 'Present yourselves before the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" Then the Lord said to Moses, "I have heard the Israelites' complaints. Now tell them, 'In the evening you will have meat to eat, and in the morning you will have all the bread you want. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God.'"*

Chronic complaining is an outward manifestation of our inner child.

Third Test = Provision

### **Exodus 16:14-20 (New Living Translation)**

*When the dew evaporated, a flaky substance as fine as frost blanketed the ground. The Israelites were puzzled when they saw it. "What is it?" [Manna] they asked each other. They had no idea what it was. And Moses told them, "It is the food the Lord has given you to eat. These are the Lord's instructions: Each household should gather as much as it needs. Pick up two quarts for each person in your tent." So the people of Israel did as they were told. Some gathered a lot, some only a little. But when they measured it*

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out, everyone had just enough. Those who gathered a lot had nothing left over, and those who gathered only a little had enough. Each family had just what it needed. Then Moses told them, "Do not keep any of it until morning." But some of them didn't listen and kept some of it until morning. But by then it was full of maggots and had a terrible smell. Moses was very angry with them.

### **3 Layered Test**

1. You must gather

#### **2 Thessalonians 3:10 (New Living Translation)**

Those unwilling to work will not get to eat.

- ✓ Verbally -> Give him Praise
- ✓ Monetarily -> Give him Tithe
- ✓ Historically -> Give him to our family

2. Be content with enough

#### **Hebrews 13:5 (Revised Standard Version)**

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never fail you nor forsake you."

#### **Philippians 4:11-13 (PHILLIPS)**

... I have learned to be content, whatever the circumstances may be. I know now how to live when things are difficult and I know how to live when things are prosperous. In general and in particular I have learned the secret of facing either poverty or plenty. I am ready for anything through the strength of the one who lives within me.

3. Depend on His Providence

#### **Philippians 4:19 (New International Version)**

And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

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#### **John 15:4-5 (New International Version)**

Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.