

# The Growth and Maturity of The Saints!

*KJV Matthew 6:31-33 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?*

*32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.*

*33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

*KJV Exodus 34:26 The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring unto the house of the LORD thy God.*

*KJV Proverbs 3:9 Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:*

*10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.*

*NIV 1 Corinthians 16:2 On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.*

*ESV Exodus 20:2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.*

*3 "You shall have no other gods before me.*

Our God demands **first place** in our lives! Nothing else is acceptable!

❖ **First means number One, before all others, first in rank, importance and time.**

It means in terms of **rank** what God says **out ranks** what anyone else says and **has the most importance in my life!**

In order for God's Word to have first place and **out rank** all others we must **know what God says.**

The first thing we're taught when working for another is—**who's the boss! Faith does not give us power over God!**

Even before learning our we learn who the boss is and who to take orders from!

I think too many people approach God in the wrong way and get off on the wrong foot in The Kingdom because of this.

They think God saved them because He needs them, rather than God revealed Himself to us because we need Him!

**Importance**—God must be the most important person in our lives!

Synonyms for importance: **significant, monumental, meaningful and historic.**

**Important** comes from the word “*port*” a port is a harbor or gate into to a city and avenue of supply where goods and valuables are brought in for the survival and thriving of the city.

Thus **important** is something which is **worth bringing into the city**, it’s something **valuable** to the people in the city.

**The more important God is the more of Him we bring into our lives!**

*KJV John 15:7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.*

*ESV John 15:4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.*

*5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.*

*KJV John 15:8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.*

Bearing fruit is multiplying what God gives us for His glory!

The unbeliever seeks to multiply what they have to increase their glory!

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As we mature we learn the things that are the most valuable and we guard those things (family, friends, investments etc.) keeping them in a safe place.

