

DEVELOPMENTAL PICTURE

SUBJECTS TO ADDRESS:	INFANT	CHILD	TEEN	ADULT
Handling The Word of God	teach to feed self	teach to read & memorize	teach to study and apply	teach to teach others
Prayer	pray for, and lead... to the Father...	pray with, (concrete needs) encourage their faith in God	pray with, teach re: a life of faith - testimonies, past and present. Must learn confidentiality...	intercedes for others & uses fasting, etc, as God directs (Warfare..)
Knowing God	know The Father	know The Son	know the Spirit	Balance of the Trinity
Identity in Christ	lead to faith in Jesus	lead to assurance of faith	identify w/ the cross daily	Freedom in Christ
Christian living	nurture love for God	teach re: temptation & forgiveness	obedience to the Truth and renewing of the mind	yielded soul, evidence of fruits of the Spirit
Discipleship	child of God	follower of Jesus	learner and servant	equipper of others
Law	obedience	moral reason 'Why?'	context	leadership by example/integrity
Fellowship of the Body	welcome as part of the Church body	teach a ministry heart and model Grace-filled relationships	apprentice into ministry & help to find Spirit. gifts and life purpose	active in mission and able to mentor...
Influence	teach the "words" of faith by example	encourage testimony of trust in God and love for Him.	teach principles of salt & light, give opportunity to declare their witness.	lifestyle evangelism at work.
Leadership	teach to obey (God & those in Authority)	teach to submit with respect -explain the moral reason "why". Give appropriate responsibilities w/ supervision.	teach to submit - with permission to appeal respectfully. - give opportunity to have respon- sibility w/ accountability.	lead by serving, and place self under authority - see leading as a responsibility and a privilege
Vision	Here and now...	temporal mind set but can be led to hunger for the things of eternity	eternal values should prevail, beware competing world views and values	Kingdom perspective and visions.

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Sin	identify what sin is and how to confess to God and others	teach the “way of escape” and the moral rationale for why something is right or wrong. teach Context....	teach the consequences on relationships – with God and others Teach letter of the Law Vs. spirit of the Law	learn balance of Law and Grace and living with a clear conscience
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(Add your own as you see a need...Precept upon precept...)

UNIQUE STRUGGLES	Immaturity	Inexperience or lack of knowledge & wisdom	Irresponsibility or sometimes rebellion. ?fear of man(peers)	Confidence in the flesh, or independence
UNIQUE STRENGTHS	Unconditional love	Unquestioning faith	Energy and Zeal	Discretion and Wisdom
MINISTRY APPROACH	CAREGIVER	TRAINER	COACH	TEAM MEMBER

Develop programs to move from stage to stage - but don't classify any believer as all one stage. i.e.- a “child” believer may have a mature sense of right and wrong, or a gift of intercession, or a gift of giving, that needs to be nurtured and used...Don't wait till someone is ALL GROWN UP to find a place of service. Use appropriate oversight in every area! ENCOURAGE! ENCOURAGE! ENCOURAGE!

Use different levels of Bible study - different avenues of prayer ministry -(needs for confidentiality or struggles with gossip pose unique issues...)
It is also difficult to discern social, psychological or mental development levels, from spiritual ones. For example, a competent business executive can be spiritually immature, yet an inexperienced teen can have faith and wisdom about God and His ways that goes beyond that of an adult. Time as a Christian does not indicate spiritual maturity or immaturity.

We need to identify a **TEAM** of good spiritual “parents” who can direct and guide an individual or a group of women to maturity. What are some necessary skills?

- ability to see an individual's strengths and weaknesses
- ability to encourage and direct the development of strengths
- ability to comfort and direct the individual to God for His provision, or transformation in areas of weakness
- ability to love with grace and resolve
- ability to articulate wisdom from God's Word
- interpersonal skills to handle the 'messes' of immaturity.
- dependence on God for this work.
- Special needs may require special parenting - to deal with deep hurts, or deception...