

Measuring Our Maturity, Part 3 (1 John 2:12-14): Observing Progress

1:1-3 – *The basis of John’s writing: Eyewitness Accounts*

1:4 – *The primary reason for John’s writing: Joy*

1:5 – *Two truths about God: God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all*

1:6-2:2 – *How do I walk in the light?*

1:6 – *By not basing it on what I say or intend*

1:7 – *By walking my means of God’s light*

1:9-10 – *By saying the same thing about my sins as God does*

2:1-2 – *By seeing any sin to be as serious as God says*

2:3-16 – *Measuring my maturity: How do I know I have grown spiritually?*

2:3-6 – *By keeping God’s commands*

2:7-11 – *By loving others (especially believers)*

2:12-14 – *By observing progress*

1. Necessary Questions & Observations:

a) *What is John’s point?*

- To test if one is saved?
- To affirm and encourage spirituality?

b) *Who is John addressing?*

- Physical age?
- Just males?
- Spiritual maturity ages?

c) *Why the interesting order?*

- Youngest, Oldest, Middle

2. Three Spiritual Maturity Ages (Each Addressed Twice)

a) *Little children*

b) *Fathers*

c) *Young [ones]*

3. John’s Activity

a) *The Practice: “I am writing...”*

b) *The Persons: “to you...”*

c) *The Purpose: “because...”*

d) *The Progress: “...”*

4. John’s Encouragement – Series 1 (12-13)

a) *To you, little children*

- Because your sins have been forgiven (→)
- On account of His name.

b) *To you, fathers*

- Because you have come to know (→)
- The One from [the] beginning

c) *To you, young [ones]*

- Because you have come to conquer (→)
- The evil [one]

5. John’s Change of Activity

a) *Vv. 12-13 “I am writing...”*

b) *V. 14 “I wrote...”*

6. John’s Encouragement – Series 2 (14)

a) *To you, little children (but paidia...?)*

- Because you have come to know (→)
- The Father

b) *To you, fathers*

- Because you have come to know (→)
- The One from [the] beginning

c) *To you, young [ones]*

- Because you are (~) strong
- And the Word of God is remaining (~) in you
- And you have come to conquer (→)
- The evil [one]

Progressing Growth Evaluation Questions:

1. *Have you believed on Jesus for forgiveness of sins?*
2. *Have you learned to rely on God as your Father?*
3. *Have you overcome the evil one, consistently getting victory over sin?*
4. *Are you spiritually strong?*
5. *Are you immersing yourself in the Word of God?*
6. *Have you come to know Him who is from the beginning?*