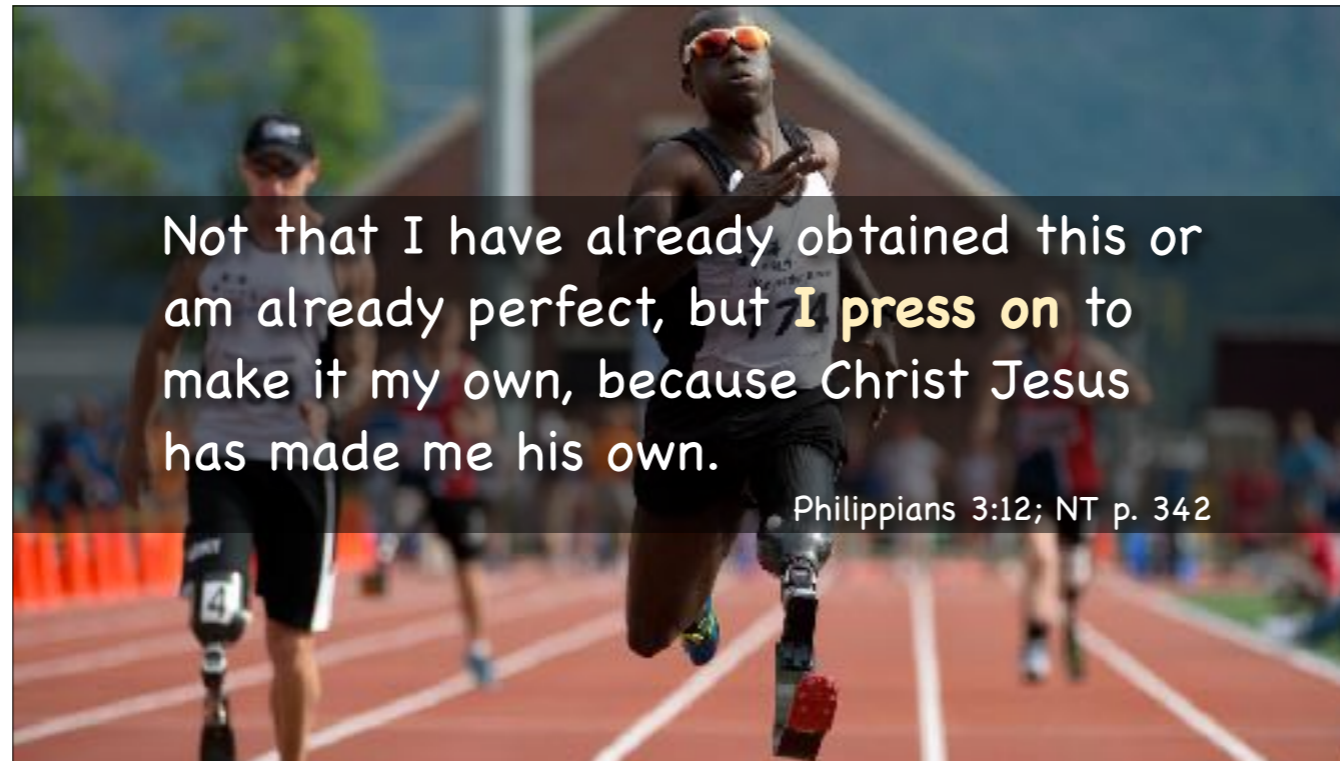


- Go on to maturity
- Consequences of not pressing on



- Hebrews 6:1 (ESV) Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,



- Philippians 3:12 (ESV) 12 Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.



- Toward the Goal
 - v. 14: prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus
 - v. 8: knowing Christ
 - v. 9: found in him
 - v. 9: righteousness from God through faith
 - v. 10: know Him and power of resurrection
 - v. 10: share in sufferings
 - v. 10: like him in his death
 - v. 11: resurrection from the dead

Press On To —

Press On To — Wisdom

Colossians 1:28: Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

1 Corinthians 2 (ESV) 1 And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. 2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. 3 And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, 4 and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. 6 Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. 7 But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him” — 10 these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. 13 And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

14 The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. 15 The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. 16 “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

Hebrews 5:11-14 (ESV) 11 About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. 12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, 13 for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. 14 But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Press On To — Wisdom

Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Colossians 1:28, NT p. 346

Colossians 1:28: Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

- Starts with Jesus
 - How is Jesus proclaimed to us today?

Press On To — Wisdom

Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Colossians 1:28, NT p. 346

- Warning
 - Acts 20:27-30 (ESV) 27 for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. 28 Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. 29 I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.

Press On To — Wisdom

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Colossians 1:28, NT p. 346

- Teaching
 - Matthew 7:28-29 (ESV Strong's) 28 And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, 29 for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.
 - 1 Peter 4:11 (ESV) whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God;
- Wisdom (next slide: 1 Cor. 2)

Press On To — Wisdom

Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Colossians 1:28, NT p. 346

- 1 Corinthians 2 (ESV) 1 And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom.
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Colossians 1:28, NT p. 346

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- 6 Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away.

Press On To — Wisdom

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Colossians 1:28, NT p. 346

- 7 But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.
 - 8 None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”—

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Colossians 1:28, NT p. 346

- 10 these things **God has revealed to us through the Spirit.**
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Colossians 1:28, NT p. 346

- 16 “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

Hebrews 5:11-14 (ESV) 11 About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. 12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not **solid food**, 13 for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. 14 But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Press On To — Wisdom

But **solid food** is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

- Solid Food

by this time —

Hebrews 5:11-14 (ESV) 11 About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. 12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, 13 for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. 14 But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

by this time —

Milk



- 11) dull of hearing
- 12) You need milk, not solid food, 13 for everyone who lives on milk is **unskilled in the word of righteousness**, since he is a child.
- Unskilled
 - (CWSB Dictionary) Inexperienced, unskillful (Heb. 5:13), ignorant of true doctrine

by this time —

Milk



- Know basic doctrines (“Good enough!”)
- Struggle with more difficult issues and understandings
- Struggle with applying to our lives.

by this time —

Milk



Solid Food



- Solid Food
- (Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary) As “solid” food requires more powerful digestive organs than are possessed by a babe, so a fuller knowledge of Christ (especially here with reference to His Melchizedek priesthood) required that exercise of spiritual intelligence which is derived from the practical appropriation of what had already been received.

by this time —

Milk



Solid Food



Junk



Junk food
???

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.
Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

- distinguish good from evil

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

For my people are foolish; they know me not; they are stupid children; they have no understanding. They are 'wise'—in doing evil! But how to do good they know not.

Jeremiah 4:22, OT p. 1211

- Jeremiah 4:22 (ESV) 22 “For my people are foolish; they know me not; they are stupid children; they have no understanding. They are ‘wise’—in doing evil! But how to do good they know not.”

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

Woe to those who call evil good and good evil

Isaiah 5:20, OT p. 1091

- Isaiah 5:20-21 (ESV) 20 Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! 21 Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and shrewd in their own sight!

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

Turn away from evil and do good

Psalm 34:14, OT p. 879

- Psalms 34:11 (ESV) Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
- Psalms 34:14 (ESV) 14 Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

Seek good, and not evil ...

Hate evil, and love good

Amos 5:14-15, OT p. 1474

- Amos 5:14-15 (ESV) 14 Seek good, and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, as you have said. 15 Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil

1 Kings 3:9, OT p. 533

- 1 Kings 3:9 (ESV) 9 Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”
- 1 Kings 3:12 (ESV) behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, **I give you a wise and discerning mind**, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil

Luke 6:45, NT p. 111

- Luke 6:45 (ESV) The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

Press On To — Wisdom

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Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

- powers of discernment (senses)
- (Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary) "senses," the capacities for spiritual apprehension. In the Sept., Jer. 4:19, "(I am pained... in the) sensitive powers (of my heart)."

Press On To — Wisdom

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Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

1 Corinthians 2:14 , NT p. 285

- 1 Corinthians 2:14 (ESV) The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.
 - (different “discern”; this one about “judgment”)

Press On To — Wisdom

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Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge;
fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 1:7, OT p. 1008

- Proverbs 1:7 (ESV) 7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

The wisdom of the prudent is to discern his way, but the folly of fools is deceiving.

Proverbs 14:8, OT p. 1028

- Proverbs 14:8 (ESV Strong's) 8 The wisdom of the prudent is to discern his way, but the folly of fools is deceiving.
- Jesus: two paths: broad or narrow

Press On To — Wisdom

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Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

The simple believes everything,
but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

Proverbs 14:15, OT p. 1028

- Proverbs 14:15 (ESV Strong's) 15 The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

Press On To — Wisdom

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Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a fool.

Proverbs 17:10, OT p. 1033

- Proverbs 17:10 (ESV) 10 A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a fool.

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who

And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Philippians 1:9-11, NT p. 339

- Philippians 1:9-11 (ESV) 9 And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, 10 so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Press On To — Wisdom

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Philippians 1:9-11, NT p. 339

- 10 so that you may approve what is excellent,
- and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,
- 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment **trained by constant practice** to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

- trained by constant practice
 - habitual use

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

They have hearts trained in greed.

2 Peter 2:14, NT p. 410

- False Prophets
- 2 Peter 2:14 (ESV) 14 They have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for sin. They entice unsteady souls. They have hearts trained in greed. Accursed children!

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

Rather train yourself for godliness.

1 Timothy 4:7, NT p. 362

- 1 Timothy 4:7 (ESV) 7 Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness
 - We are easily distracted by myths (ideas about God, Bible, Religion that are distractions)
 - Godliness (living righteously with Godly fear)

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.
Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

Every athlete exercises self-control in all things.

1 Corinthians 9:25, NT p. 294

- 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (ESV) 24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 25 Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 26 So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. 27 But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

Press On To — Wisdom

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:14, NT p. 381

work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Philippians 2:12-13, NT p. 341

- Philippians 2:12-13 (ESV) 12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Press On To —

Wisdom



- We need to spend more time in God's word
 - Reading
 - Rereading
 - Studying
 - Meditating
 - Discussing
 - iron sharpens iron

**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

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Go On To Maturity (Pressing On to Wisdom)

Hebrews 6:1

Synopsis: Understanding the elementary principles is just the beginning, we must be sure that we go on to maturity, pressing on, straining forward. One goal of maturity is wisdom which is gained from God's word.

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"Let all that you do be done with love."