

Stages of Human Development/Maturity

Needs to be Met by Others	Tasks to be Accomplished by the Person	Possible Symptoms of Unfinished Tasks
<i>Infant Level Maturity (Birth to 3 Years)</i>		
Strong, loving bonds with parents Important needs met w/o asking Others synchronize to infant Help regulating emotions Be seen through eyes of heaven	Receive with Joy Develop trust Organize self into person through imitation Regulate and quiet every emotion Return to joy from distressing emotions Learn to rest	Weak identity Difficulty bonding Withdrawn, disengaged, unresponsive Inability to regulate emotions Gets stuck in emotions Addictions
<i>Child Level Maturity (Ages 4 to 12)</i>		
Help doing what the child doesn't want to do Help sorting feelings, imagination, and reality Feedback on guesses, attempts, and failures Love that is not earned To be taught the big picture of life	Take care of self, emotionally/relationally Learn to ask for needs Learn self-expression Develop persistence for doing hard things Tame cravings Learn what satisfies See self through eyes of heaven	Frustration over unmet needs Consumed with fantasy life Life filled with unproductive activity Fails to develop personal style Addictions
<i>Adult Level Maturity (Age 13 to birth of first child)</i>		
Opportunity to form bonds with peers Inclusion by the adult community Observe adults using power fairly Opportunity for important involvement Opportunities for mutual relationships	Discover main characteristics of heart Develop personal style reflecting heart Move from "me and you" to "us" Remain stable in distress Learn to protect others from self Mutual satisfaction	Self-centered Leaves others unsatisfied with interactions Conforms to peer pressure Tendency to isolate Controlling, blaming
<i>Parent Level Maturity (Until Youngest Child Becomes an Adult)</i>		
Encouragement and guidance from elders Peer review with other parents Secure and orderly community	Giving without receiving in return Protecting family unit Serve and enjoy family Meet needs of children Help children with their tasks	Other family members at risk of being Children taking care of parents' needs Children do not mature
<i>Elder Level Maturity (After Youngest Child Becomes an Adult)</i>		
A community in which to belong Recognition by the community A proper place in community structure Opportunity to be involved in lives of community members	Hospitality Give life to those without family Nurture community identity and purpose Able to guide group through difficulty and return group back to joy	Disintegration of social structures Fragile people do not heal or survive Increased crime, disregard of others

From *The Complete Guide to Living With Men* by E James Wilder, and *The Life Model* by Freisen et al
 Also contained in *Forming: A Work of Grace*, by David Takle, pages 359-361