

## Journey: It's time to grow up.

#### Connect with *like-hearted* people.

Ephesians 4:1 (NIV) As a prisoner of the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

- Connect with *like-hearted* people.
- Like-hearted people readily embrace the cost of God's grace.

#### Titus 2:11-14

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men.<sup>12</sup> It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live selfcontrolled, upright and godly lives in this present age, <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

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  - Be a champion for others.
  - Bear with the shortcomings of others.

"This is the spirit that has the power to take revenge but chooses not to do so. Refuses to retaliate. It is the spirit which bears insult and injury without bitterness and without complaint. It is the spirit that can suffer unpleasant people with graciousness, and fools without irritation."

- Chrysostom

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- The God of grace will empower like-hearted people.

**Ephesians 4:3-6** 

<sup>3</sup> Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit— just as you were called to one hope when you were called— <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

#### Growing Up is Hard but Good

- Get current.
- Don't just aspire to grow; choose to grow.
- Do an honest assessment of your backstage.