

## Spiritual Maturity

“One of the marks of spiritual maturity is the quiet confidence that God is in control - without the need to understand why He does what He does.” - Author unknown -

“Ingratitude denotes spiritual immaturity. Infants do not always appreciate what parents do for them. They have short memories. Their concern is not what you did for me yesterday, but what are you doing for me today. The past is meaningless and so is the future. They live for the present. Those who are mature are deeply appreciative of those who labored in the past. They recognize those who labor during the present and provide for those who will be laboring in the future.” - Author Unknown -

## March Birthdays

2 Gonzalo Medina    15 David Lomeli    27 Marisa Perezchica  
8 Drina Zamarripa    18 Buddy Cashion    30 Barrett Hoffman  
9 Jessica Aguiar    24 Gabriela Marin

## March Anniversaries

2 David & Angeles Lomeli  
6 Harold & Dortha Gentry  
24 Chuck & Pat Limburg

(Note: if anyone is “missed” here, let Jim know)

### Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

**Preacher**  
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# Indio Informer

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Growth as a Christian...

## Ain't Done Yet

In Robert Ozment's *But God Can*, there is a story of a woman who was suffering a terrible tragedy. In bitter desperation, she said, "I wish I'd never been made." A discerning friend said, "My dear, you are not fully made yet. You are only being made, and this is the Maker's process." A good observation.

Someone asked a small boy who had just come from Sunday school, "Son, can you tell me who made you?" Digging a toe in the ground and squinting an eye, he courteously replied, "To tell the truth, mister, I ain't done yet." True. Individually speaking, if we stay yielded, God continues to mold us for a lifetime. None wishes for tragedy, yet most of those who have accomplished significant things have been made by their tragedies. They conquered in spite of them, not because of the absence of them.

- Milton was stricken with blindness before he wrote the incomparable *Paradise Lost*.
- Beethoven wrote his most famous music after he became deaf.
- Who hasn't been inspired by the incredible accomplishments of Helen Keller?

Maybe things are going rough for you. You wouldn't choose these circumstances. They are not pleasant. But, they may be the making of you. As someone said, "Where souls are being tried and tested, there God is hewing out pillars for His temple!" (Barnett).

Congregationally speaking, God ain't done with His church yet. Things have not always gone as we might have wished, and there are still things that need attention to become the church we can be - the church God wants us to be. Even those programs which are strong and productive can grow by adding new people. God's working on us; we must continue to submit to His work, look for doors of opportunity, repent of mistakes, and keep on keeping on.

Will you help? Let me be a part of the solution. Let me be a worker bee and not a drone. Let me do my part, and then just a little bit more. Let my love for God move me to do things for Him I'd never do for anyone else. We ain't done yet. We're still in the process of being made.

*“But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord”*  
2 Corinthians 3:18

## **Bible Study “Tools”: “Vine’s”**

### **Vine’s Expository Dictionary**

There are numerous Greek NT (New Testament) tools out there, but very few are helpful for lay believers who do not have the knowledge of the Greek. But Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary (VCED) is perfect for ALL believers. This is a classic, essential reference, right there with Strong's, and with good reason. If you don't have an expository dictionary of Bible words from the original languages, then you should start with this one. Some terms are discussed in depth, others more sparsely, but it gives you a good feel for the meaning of important terms.

As you become more comfortable with examining the meanings of the original Hebrew or Greek words, you may find yourself wanting more, and so there are other, more in-depth dictionaries available. But this is quite accessible and an excellent starting point. Vine's is also fairly denomination-neutral, being careful not

to expound too much on opinion, but sticking to the business of objectively defining the word.

Here are reasons for high recommendation:

1. You do NOT need Greek knowledge to use this book. It is that simple and arranged that way, using KJV of the Bible as the main text.
2. It explains KJV word in an original Greek in context. It provides the meaning of the word in a proper context of Greek background. For example: In an English Bible, there is only one word for "love" but in NT Greek, there are four (two being used the mostly). Therefore VCED fills the gap between English Bible and Greek NT nicely and effectively.
3. It provides the definition of a word (KJV word) more accurately than the English dictionary because it uses Greek use of the word. For example: The word, "godliness" (1Tim. 2:2) in Merriam Webster Collegiate Dictionary is defined as "1: Divine 2: pious, devout -" but in VCED, it defines it as " 'to be devout,' denotes that piety which characterized by a God-ward attitude, does that which is well-pleasing to Him." It provides fuller meaning of the word by explaining how the word is used in the NT.
4. It can be used with Strong's Exhaustive Concordance. It includes Strong's Concordance numbers for each word making it easy to differentiate between various meanings. You do not need to know the original language to find the original meaning.
5. This edition includes OT Dictionary as well. Although not written by Vine himself, it still is helpful, but is not as complete as Vine's NT.
6. This edition is clear in typeset (modernized). Previous editions were bad to read because of its old typeset.

If you want to use this book, you must have KJV of the Bible alongside VCED. All entries are given in KJV word.

Vine’s is recommended for anyone wanting to do further research and get more accurate information from their Bible study.