

May 29th, To Be Like Jesus, Be With Jesus
Part 4 in the series 'Growing Pains'

What were some things from last Sunday's message that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

Who are some of the people you regard as models of maturity?

Hebrews 4:15 reminds us that Jesus was tempted, but did not sin. Do you find it comforting that Jesus knows what temptation is like?

In what ways did Jesus demonstrate maturity?

Read Acts 4:5-13

5 The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. **6** Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. **7** They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! **9** If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, **10** then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. **11** Jesus is

“the stone you builders rejected,
which has become the cornerstone.”^[a]

12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” **13** When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

Why do you think the elders took note of Peter and John?

What can we learn from the source of Peter and John's courage?

If you want to be *like* Jesus, be *with* Jesus.

Read John 15:1-5

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. **2** He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes[a] so that it will be even more fruitful. **3** You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. **4** Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. **5** “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

What are some of the ways you can remain in Jesus?

How does Paul define prayer in Philippians 4:6?

How do you read the Bible? Do you have a routine or strategy that you use?