Godly Woman as Christ's Representative Irma Warr

I. Introduction.

- A. Maturation has been a problem for Christians for a long time. (Psalm 78:70-72)
- II. Growing in character takes time.
- III. Character growth requires testing. Trouble can make us bitter or better. (James 1:2-4)
- IV. Spokes for growth.
 - A. A positive mental attitude.
 - 1. This involves faith. (Philippians 1:14; Psalm 19:29)
 - 2. This involves your outlook on life. (Philippians 4:8; Galatians 5:1-17; Proverbs 15:15)
 - 3. This involves an expectant heart. (Hosea 12:6)
 - B. Endurance. (Ecclesiastes 7:8)
 - 1. This requires faith. (Hebrews 6:12)
 - 2. This requires patience. (Hebrews 10:36)
 - 3. This requires steadfastness. (1 Corinthians 15:58)
 - 4. This requires courage. (Isaiah 8:12-13)
 - a. We need to believe that God is sovereign.
 - b. We need to believe that God is all powerful.
 - c. We need to believe that God is personal.
 - d. We need to believe that God loves us.
 - 5. We endure by...
 - a. Seeing the invisible. (Hebrews 11:27; 2 Corinthians 4:18)
 - b. Believing the incredible. (Romans 4:20-21)
 - c. Attempting the impossible. (Joshua 3:14-17; Luke 5:4-6)
 - C. Drive, which involves high motivation and not domineering. (Joshua 14; Psalm 18:29)
 - 1. This requires a clear objective. (Matthew 28:19-20)

- 2. This requires faith. (Psalm 62:8)
- 3. This requires enthusiasm. (Proverbs 15:30)
- 4. This requires self-starting. (1 Corinthians 14:8)

D. A mature personality. (Ephesians 4:13; Colossians 3:9-10)

- 1. This requires reliability. (Proverbs 25:19)
- 2. This requires the ability to think through. (Proverbs 22:3; Mark 3:9)
- 3. This requires self-control. (Proverbs 14:30)
- 4. This requires concern for others. (Philippians 2:3-4)
- 5. This requires humility. (1 Peter 5:5-6)
- 6. This requires stability. (Isaiah 33:6)
- 7. This requires a servant attitude. (Matthew 20:26-27)

E. Getting along with others.

- 1. This requires being a team player. (Romans 12:16)
- 2. This requires submitting to one another. (Ephesians 5:21)
- 3. This requires being a peace maker. (James 3:18)
- 4. This requires accepting others.

F. Sincerity of life.

- V. Areas that call people to fall off in the Christian life when moving forward: mental, physical and spiritual.
 - A. Having the wrong mindset.
 - B. Becoming production oriented.
 - C. Worldliness.
 - D. Guilt. (Micah 7:18-19)
 - E. Disappointment with God.
 - F. Playing to the wrong audience.

VI. Conclusion. (Hosea 6:3)

Application questions:

1. How have you grown through testing?
2. Which spoke for growth would be most helpful to apply in your life now? Explain.
3. How can you prevent yourself from falling off your Christian growth? Explain.