

Progression of sonship:

The stages of our growth as
sons and daughters of The
Father



2 Cor 6:18

I will be a **Father to you, and you will be my
sons and **daughters**, says the Lord Almighty.”
NIV**

Gal 3:26-29

You are **all** sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, 27 for **all of you** who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is **neither** Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, **male nor female**, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. NIV

Rom 8:13-14

For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, 14 because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

NIV

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Luke 2:52

And Jesus **grew** in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Isaiah 9:6

For to us a **child** is born, to us a **son** is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting **Father**, Prince of Peace.

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Hebrews 5:12 – 6:2

In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. **You need milk**, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an **infant**, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the **mature**, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and **go on to maturity**, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

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1 John 2:12-14

I write to you, dear **children**, because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name. I write to you, **fathers**, because you have known him who is from the beginning. I write to you, **young men**, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, dear **children**, because you have known the Father. I write to you, **fathers**, because you have known him who is from the beginning. I write to you, **young men**, because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

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1 John 2:12-14

I write to you, dear **children (teknon)**, because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name. I write to you, **fathers (pater)**, because you have known him who is from the beginning. I write to you, **young men (neaniskos)**, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, dear **children (paidion)**, because you have known the Father. I write to you, **fathers (pater)**, because you have known him who is from the beginning. I write to you, **young men (neaniskos)**, because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one.



Little Children

1. Baby Stage – NEPIOS

= Babes, Infant, Immature, Those partaking of milk

Hebrews 5:13

For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an **infant (nepios)**.

‘WANT’ phase

Little Children

2. Toddler Stage – PAIDION

= Child, Little boy, Little girl, an immature Christian

Matthew 2:8

When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the **boys (pais, root word of paidion)** in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were **two years old & under**, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.

‘WILL’ phase

Adolescents

3. Teenager Stage – TEKNON

= Child, Son – Pupil/Disciple who, by the instruction of his teacher, nourishes his mind and sees his character molded

Luke 2:48

When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "**Son (teknon)**, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.

‘DO’ phase



Young Men/Women

4. Young Adult Stage – NEANISKOS

= Young man, Adolescent.

Matthew 19:20

“All these I have kept”, the young man (**neaniskos**) said. “What do I still lack?”

Adult Son

4. Mature Son – HUIOS

= Mature son

Matthew 5:44-48

But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be **sons (huios)** of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be **perfect**, therefore, as your heavenly Father is **perfect**.



Adult Son

4. Mature Son – HUIOS

To be a HUIOS = To be **Perfect**

Matthew 5:48

Be **perfect**, therefore, as your heavenly Father is **perfect**.

James 3:2

We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a **perfect** man, able to keep his whole body in check.

Perfect (teleios)

Fully grown, Complete, Mature, Lacking nothing

Fathers

5. Father Stage – PATER

= Father, Parent

1 Corinthians 4:15

Even though you have ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many **fathers (pater)**, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

‘BE’ phase



1 Corinthians 14:20

Brethren, do not be **children (paidion)** in your thinking; yet in evil be **infants (nepios)**, but in your thinking be **mature (teleios)**.

- In your thinking, do not be undisciplined and without boundary – *don't just do what you want*; rather be fully grown, mature, complete and lacking nothing – in your thinking *be disciplined*.
- In evil, be innocent, pure and *immature*.

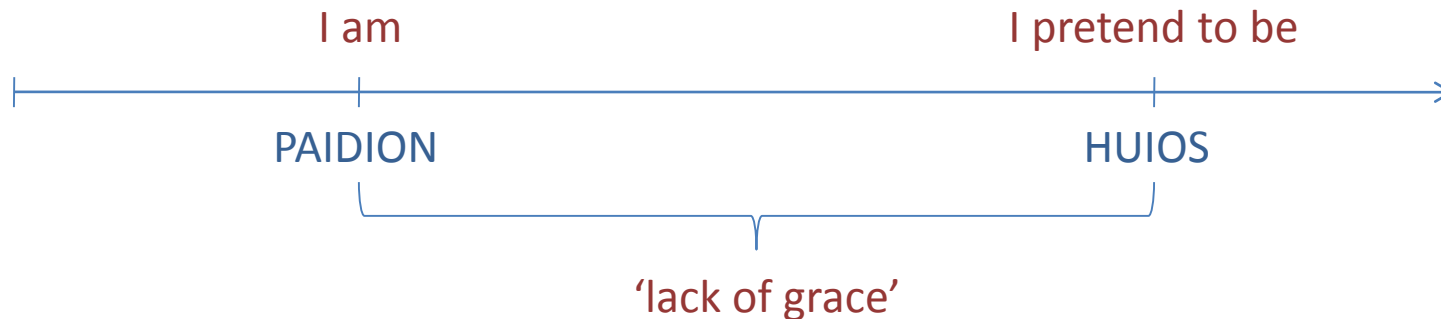
Make mature judgements and stay away from any form of malice.

Good understanding wins favor, but the way of the unfaithful is hard (Pr 13:15)

Understand:

1. where **YOU** are at
2. where **OTHERS** are at

Beware of **SPIRITUAL PROJECTION**



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NEPIOS
Want

PAIDION
Will

TEKNON
Do

HUIOS
Perfect

PATER
Be