



**A Mature Dream**  
**By: Minister Beverly Davis**

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**Big Point:** You will never reach your dream if you don't mature.

**Two words that help clarify our context**

**Dream** – noun (google dictionary) cherished aspiration, ambition, or ideal, goal, design, plan, aim

**Mature** – Having reached an advanced stage of mental or emotional development characteristic of an adult. Sensible responsible adult, level-headed, reliable, dependable, discriminating, shrewd (astute, smart, perceptive, discerning, insightful, wise)

The attributes of a mature person: (Tim Elmore, Psychology Today)

1. Can **keep long term commitments and can delay gratification** (Must be willing to put in the time)
2. Are unshaken by **flattery or criticism** (Neither will sway them into a distorted view of themselves)
3. Possess a **spirit of humility** (Not consumed with attention to themselves)
4. Make decisions based on **character not feelings**
  - They live by values
  - Their principles guide their decisions
  - Their character is master over their emotions
5. **Seeks wisdom** (A mature person is **teachable**)

*Acts 7:20-30 (NIV)<sup>20</sup> “At that time Moses was born, and he was no ordinary child.<sup>[a]</sup> For three months he was cared for by his family. <sup>21</sup> When he was placed outside, Pharaoh’s daughter took him and brought him up as her own son. <sup>22</sup> **Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action.** <sup>23</sup> “When Moses was forty years old, he decided to visit his own people, the Israelites. <sup>24</sup> **He saw one of them being mistreated by an Egyptian, so he went to his defense and avenged him by killing the Egyptian.** <sup>25</sup> Moses thought that his own people would realize that God was using him to rescue them, but they did not. <sup>26</sup> The next day Moses came upon two Israelites who were fighting. He tried to reconcile them by saying, ‘Men, you are brothers; why do you want to hurt each other?’ <sup>27</sup> “But the man who was mistreating the other pushed Moses aside and said, ‘Who made you ruler and judge over us?’ <sup>28</sup> Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?’<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>29</sup> **When Moses heard this, he fled to Midian, where he settled as a foreigner and had two sons.** <sup>30</sup> “**After forty years had passed, an angel appeared to Moses in the flames of a burning bush in the desert near Mount Sinai.***



### I. Moses was Trained to be Mature

*<sup>22</sup> Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action*

Easy-to-Read Version

*<sup>22</sup> The Egyptians taught Moses everything they knew. He was powerful in all he said and did.*

- He was educated in Egypt (v22) (Egyptian Prince who was a scholar, he was taught wisdom)
- He was powerful in his speech (v22) (He was taught how to communicate)
- He was taught etiquette and good behavior (v22) (He understood Egyptian court procedure, politics, and government)

### II. Signs of Moses Immaturity

*<sup>24</sup> He saw one of them being mistreated by an Egyptian, so he went to his defense and avenged him by killing the Egyptian.*

In defense of one of his brethren Moses killed an Egyptian

- He took an immature approach to the situation
- He allowed his passion and his feelings to guide his decision
- He did not allow character to be master over his emotions

### III. Moses Matures in the Wilderness

*<sup>29</sup> When Moses heard this, he fled to Midian, where he settled as a foreigner and had two sons.*

*<sup>30</sup> "After forty years had passed..."*

- Moses learned **humility** in Midian (he went from being a Prince to being a foreigner)
- As a foreigner he learned a life of solitude (Moses was a shepherd)
- He learned a lesson in delayed gratification

### IV. Four Things I Struggled with in My Life

1. I had to learn to live by values and not by feelings and emotions
2. I had to learn to have friends that could help me balance my thinking
3. I had to learn to let the word of God speak to me when I am intense moments
4. I had to learn to be teachable and take instructions