



A Mature Dream
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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)²⁰ “At that time Moses was born, and he was no ordinary child.^[a] For three months he was cared for by his family. ²¹ When he was placed outside, Pharaoh’s daughter took him and brought him up as her own son. ²² **Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action.** ²³ “When Moses was forty years old, he decided to visit his own people, the Israelites. ²⁴ **He saw one of them being mistreated by an Egyptian, so he went to his defense and avenged him by killing the Egyptian.** ²⁵ Moses thought that his own people would realize that God was using him to rescue them, but they did not. ²⁶ 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?’ ²⁷ “But the man who was mistreating the other pushed Moses aside and said, ‘Who made you ruler and judge over us?’ ²⁸ Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?’^[b] ²⁹ **When Moses heard this, he fled to Midian, where he settled as a foreigner and had two sons.** ³⁰ “**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

²² Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action

Easy-to-Read Version

²² 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

²⁴ 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

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

³⁰ "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