



**Maturity Demands
Consistency Under Pressure, (Part Four)**

July 25, 2021

Big Question: How do you respond to the pressure to be inconsistent?

The Healing That Started The Pressure To Be Inconsistent

- Acts 4:8–10 (NIV): 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.

The Response to The Pressure To Be Inconsistent

- Acts 4:18–22 (NIV): Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John replied, “Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! 20 As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.” 21 After further threats they let them go. **They could not decide how to punish them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened. 22 For the man who was miraculously healed was over forty years old.**

Four Things Mature People Look Out For

1. Lies About Their Age (4:22)

- A. God is not hindered by your age
- B. God is not basing your future on your age (Ask Abraham and Sarah)

2. Lies About Their Life-tools

- A. God is aware of all your tools (Peter knew he did not have the tools to heal the blind man)
- B. God gives us the ability to get better tools
- C. God has proven that he will provide the tools if we ask, seek and knock (Matthew 7:7-12)

3. Lies About Their Level of Response

- A. Are you cooperating with God when you are approached?
- B. Are you willing to try and stand up?
- C. Are you willing to embrace the idea of a new beginning or healing?

4. Lies About Their Long-term Temptations

- A. Are you tempted to embrace being lame for the rest of your life?
- B. Are you tempted to believe that begging is your best career opportunity?

Next Time: Maturity Demands You Must Tell the Truth

Big Question: Are you telling the truth?

Read Ahead: Acts 5:1-11