



[Equip to Serve](#)

Selected texts

Wayne Braudrick

May 31, 2026

[Life Change: We use our God-given gifts to build the church](#)

The Discovery Trail...

Our diverse blessings are interconnected

Romans 12:4-8

Our gifts should edify the churches

1 Cor 14:12

Excel!

Fulness (*perisseuo*), which is an essential mark of God, is achieved in the age of salvation to an enhanced degree as compared with anything known hitherto. But this superabundance is manifested, not in superfluity of material goods, but in the sphere of the *Pneuma*. It applies above all to the *charis*, the gift of grace. – Frederick Hauch, *The Attitude of Early Christianity Towards Work and Money*

Build up!

We equip for unity and maturity

Eph. 4:11-13

Equip the saints

Unity in the faith and knowledge of Jesus

Grow mature in Christ



Upcoming
Events



Give



Prayer
Request



De **WILL**

Frisco Bible Values



The Discovery Trail



courtesy YouTube

It's spiritual gifts. I am studying Romans and came to the list of gifts. And I realize that I don't have one!



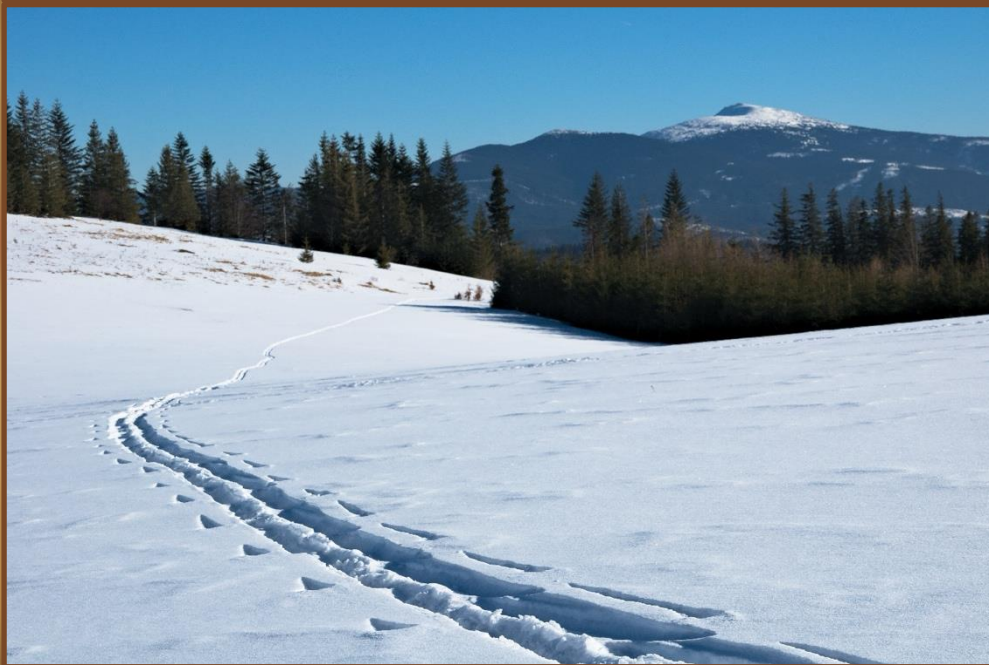
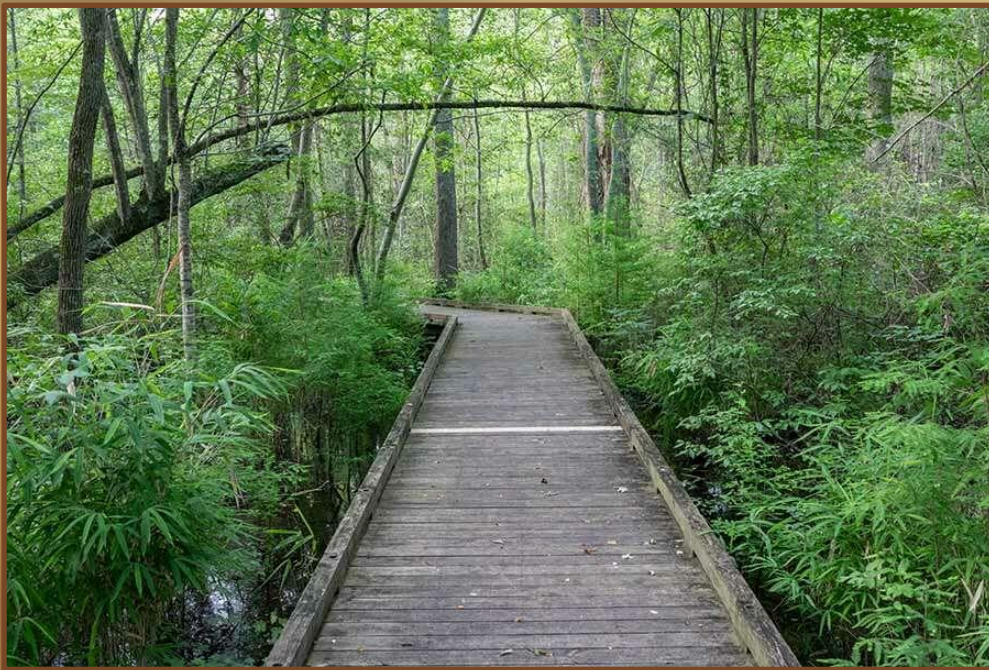
12:6 According to the grace given to us, we have different gifts: If prophecy, use it according to the proportion of one's faith; ⁷ if service, use it in service; if teaching, in teaching; ⁸ if exhorting, in exhortation; giving, with generosity; leading, with diligence; showing mercy, with cheerfulness.



**I knew it! I'm not really a
Christian at all because I don't
have a spiritual gift!**



courtesy Phrixus





Your spiritual gifts are part of the equipment God gives you to serve His church. Along with natural abilities, resources, experience, and personality, they make up your gear for ministry. If you want to know your gifting, look in your God-given “life backpack” and see where you are best equipped to serve.



The Discovery Trail



By the power of the Spirit, we will:

- **Hold fast to the Word**
- **Grow up in Christ**
- **Build Community**
- **Strengthen families**
- **Equip to Serve**

⁴ Now as we have many parts in one body, and all the parts do not have the same function, ⁵ in the same way we who are many are one body in Christ and individually members of one another. ⁶ According to the grace given to us, we have different gifts: If prophecy, use it according to the proportion of one's faith; ⁷ if service, use it in service; if teaching, in teaching; ⁸ if exhorting, in exhortation; giving, with generosity; leading, with diligence; showing mercy, with cheerfulness.

Romans 12 CSB

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Romans 12 CSB

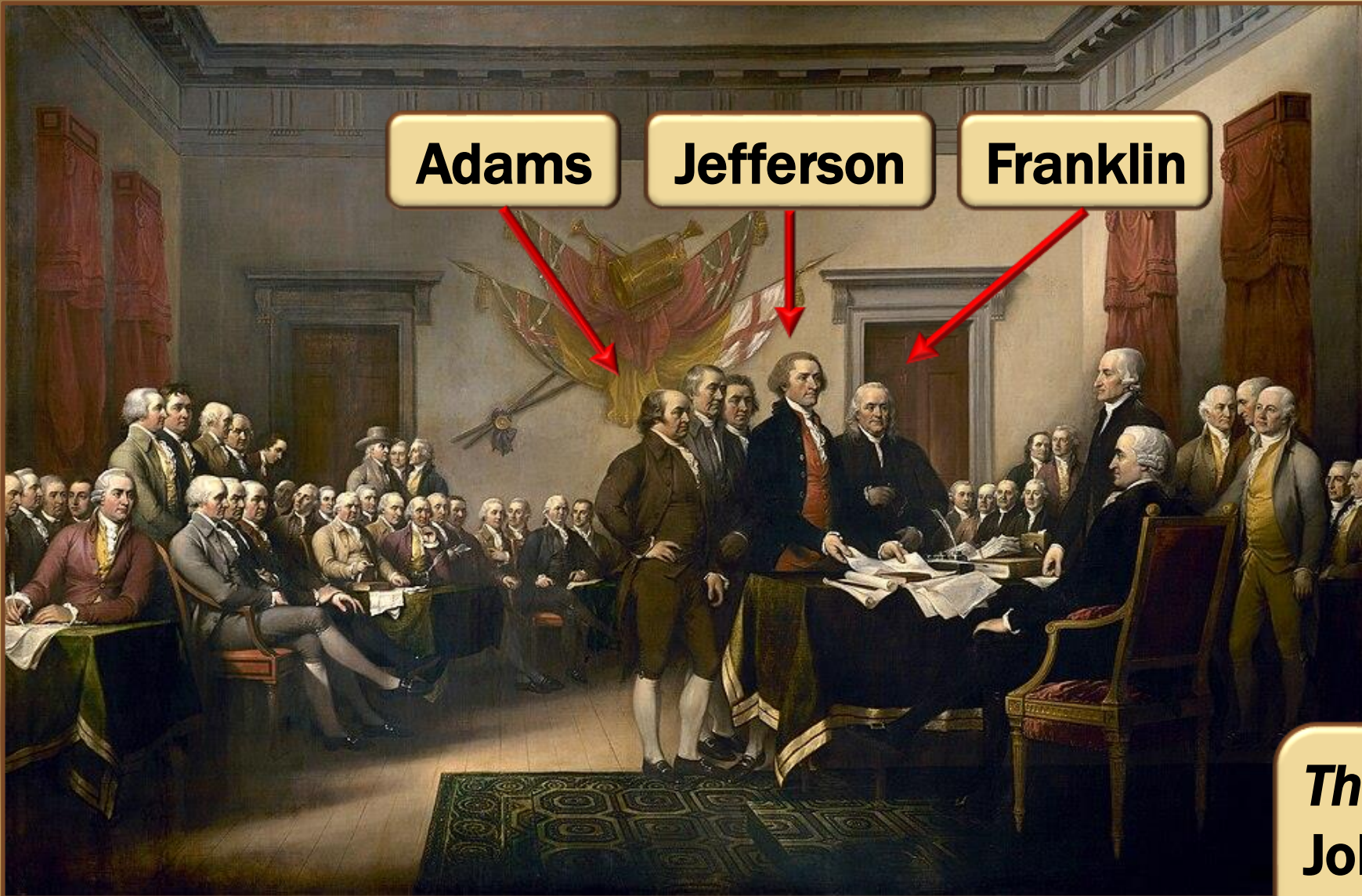
“Our diversity is our strength”

Diversity alone inevitably leads to cacophony that deepens entropy. When the entropy brings disfunction, people begin to react against diversity.

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Romans 12 CSB

**Our strength comes from unified purpose
that utilizes our diversity.**

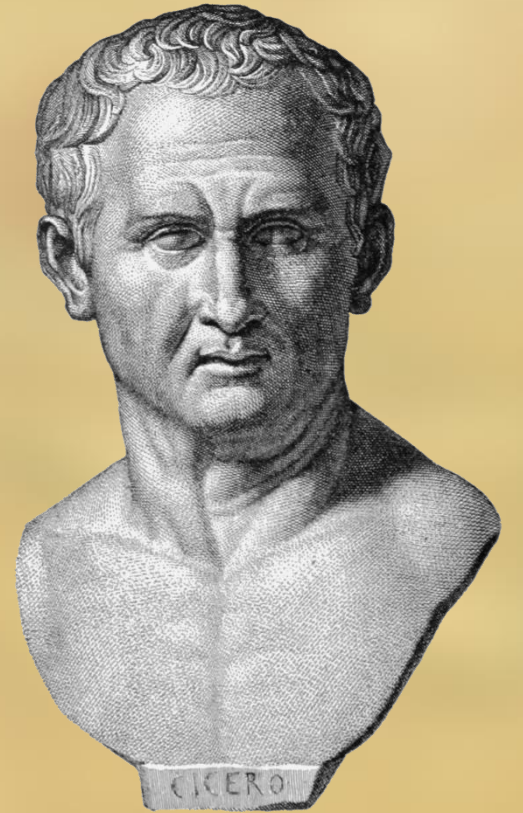


Adams

Jefferson

Franklin

The Drafting Committee
John Trumbull
1818



e pluribus unum

The Drafting Committee
John Trumbull
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Romans 12

Our strength comes from unified purpose that utilizes our diversity.

e pluribus unum [out of many, one]





courtesy YouTube

Lord, I praise you that you created us in your image – to live well in deep, loving relationships. Thank you for your great gift of Frisco Bible Church, your family. Help me use the gifts that you have given me to build the church, not as some club or association, but as a band of brothers and sisters growing up together in Christ. I ask you to use me especially for those struggling or feeling alone. Amen.

**How beautiful the hands that served
The wine and the bread
And the sons of the earth
How beautiful the feet that walked
The long dusty roads
And the hill to the cross
How beautiful, how beautiful
How beautiful is the body of Christ**



**How beautiful the heart that bled
That took all my sin and bore it instead
How beautiful the tender eyes
That choose to forgive and never despise
How beautiful, how beautiful
How beautiful is the body of Christ**

**And as He lay down His life
We offer this sacrifice
That we will live just as He died
Willing to pay the price
– Twila Paris, “How Beautiful”**



A short list of results from ignoring Rom 12:

- **Bible student puffed with pride over his learning.**
- **Gifts that could serve others being employed selfishly or parsimoniously.**
- **Seeing differences as automatically divisive.**
- **Employing gifts for one's own delight, not to benefit others. [I receive this reproof on occasion from our Pulpit Team re: my teaching.]**
- **Seeing clearly what needs said, given, or done...but doing nothing.**
- **Ministries adopting a “we're underappreciated” sense of entitlement – comparing budgets, profile, etc. with other church ministries.**
- **Sloppy, slovenly, or lazy leadership.**
- **Grumpy, gossipy, or careless caregiving.**
- **Refusal to unify behind those the Lord placed in authority (when not leading contra scripture).**

If I were ever to lose sight of *e pluribus unum*:

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Romans 12 CSB

¹² So also you—since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, seek to excel in building up the church.

1 Corinthians 14 CSB

12 So also you—since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, seek to excel in building up the church.

1 Corinthians 14 CSB



Greek: περισσεύω perisseuo = to go above and beyond

Key terms:

- **charis**
(grace/gift/blessing)
- **pneuma (Spirit)**
- **perisseuo**
(excellence/fulness/
abundance)

Each believer in Jesus is more richly blessed than can be comprehended.

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1 Corinthians 14 CSB



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1 Corinthians 14

Greek: οἰκοδομή oikodome = portrays finishing an unbuilt house, especially in the sense of continual maintenance.

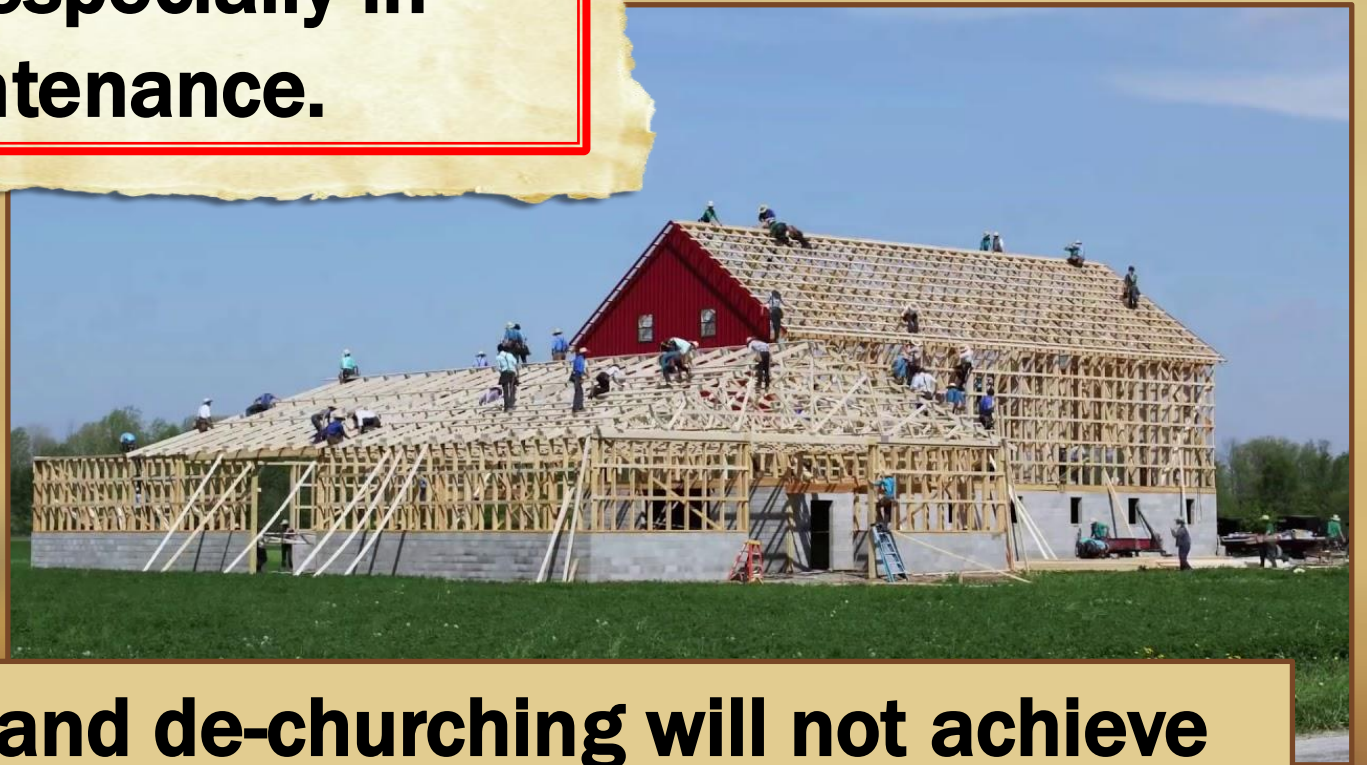




courtesy Shaun Tolar

Build Up

Greek: οἰκοδομή oikodome = portrays finishing an unbuilt house, especially in the sense of continual maintenance.



This is why deconstruction and de-churching will not achieve anything of lasting value.



courtesy SA

evangelicalism
evangelicalism
evangelicalism

This hurts, so build up! Oikodome!



**This hurts,
so let it rot.**



If I were ever to lose sight of *e pluribus unum*:

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¹¹ And he himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ's fullness.

Ephesians 4 CSB

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Ephesians 4 CSB



courtesy Milwaukee Brewers

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**Why? Why put in all
the work?**



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Ephesians 4 CSB

Universalism

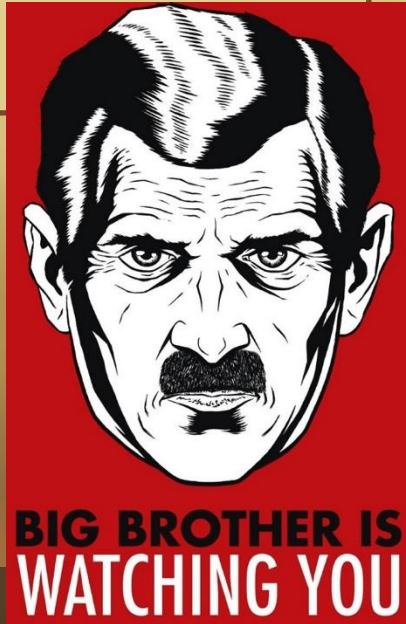
pretends that there are no differences despite obvious evidence. Academia often trumpets this, ironically blind to its absurdity.

Unity understands differences but pulls them together in the wake of a compelling force. Outside of scripture, true unity is rarely depicted.

Uniformity is enforced agreement where difference is forbidden. Literature does a pretty good job depicting this in characters like Orwell's Big Brother & L'Engle's IT.



courtesy usawaterski; IOC; sacrist



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Ephesians 4 CSB

**²⁸ There is no Jew or Greek,
slave or free, male and female;
since you are all one in Christ Jesus.**

Galatians 3 CSB

Universalism

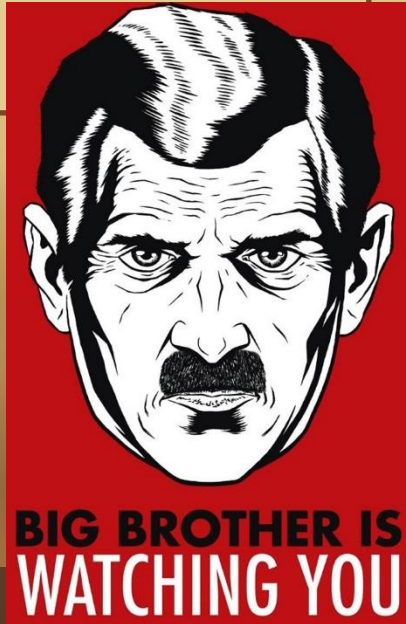
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Ephesians 4 CSB

It takes work to grow up in Jesus. It requires equipping and practice that must be valued. Legalism is stupid; laziness is silly; but discipline is superb.



SO, PETER, YOU'VE BECOME A PIRATE..

¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ's fullness.

Ephesians 4 CSB

In school, mathematics was never my favorite subject; however, one formula I remember is $R \times T = D$ (Rate multiplied by Time equals Distance). The pace that we sustain and the time we invest determine the distance we cover. This is true in the world of running and driving, and it's true in our spiritual lives as well. – Dan Bolin



courtesy Jack Wallington



courtesy Janna

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T/F I am unselfish and generous.

T/F I serve with others' benefit in mind.

T/F I care and share without grumbling.

T/F I do excellent work.

T/F I help build the church of Christ.

T/F I strive for unity in Jesus.

T/F I consciously pursue the goal of growing up in the Lord.

T/F Reasonable friends would observe that I am maturing.

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write mwbraudrick@friscobible.com. A staff member will respond and will recommend steps for you to take to discover your gifts and help you excel in building up the body for unity & maturity.



**By the power of the Spirit,
will we:**

- **Hold fast to the Word?**
- **Grow up in Christ?**
- **Build Community?**
- **Strengthen families?**
- **Equip to Serve?**