

MAKING SPACE





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¹¹ Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. ¹² Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. ¹³ This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

¹⁴ Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth.

Ephesians 4:11-14 NLT

Works of service have *unity* and *maturity* in Christ as their goals.

Unity guards against *internal* pressures.

Maturity guards against *external* pressures.

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Homework

What hurts your walk with Christ more, the internal conflicts in a church, or the external cultural onslaughts?