

Eternally Significant Service

**Ephesians 4:12c-13  
Message**

**Christ gives gifts to His servant people, employing them all in significant service as He constructs His eternal temple.**

“God uses messed-up people for his service. It makes him look even better. If God only used perfect people (of which there are none), it would undermine his plan to do powerful work through very ordinary ones.”

Ed Welch,  
*Crossroads*,  
p. 64

# Equipping The Saints (Eph 4:11-13)

1

Jesus gave certain gifts to equip the saints (11-12a)

2

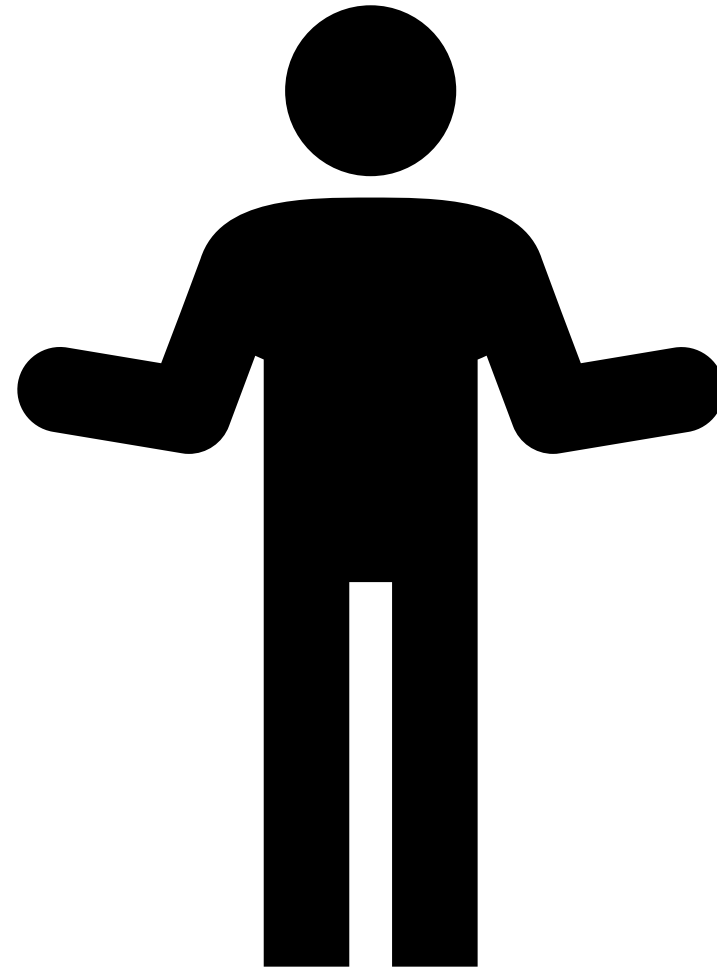
Jesus' initial goal was for the saints to do the work of ministry (12b)

3

Jesus' ultimate goal is to build up the body of Christ (12c-13)

# The Body of Christ

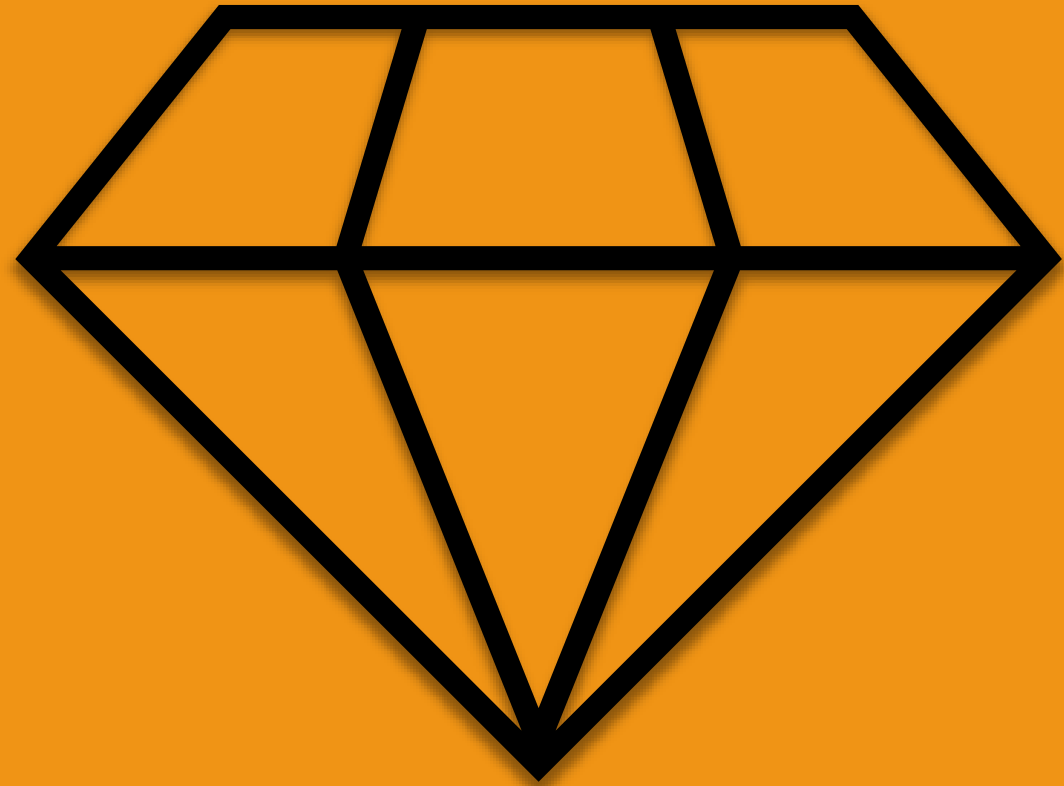
- Unity
- Maturity
- Christ-likeness



## Facet #1 of the goal

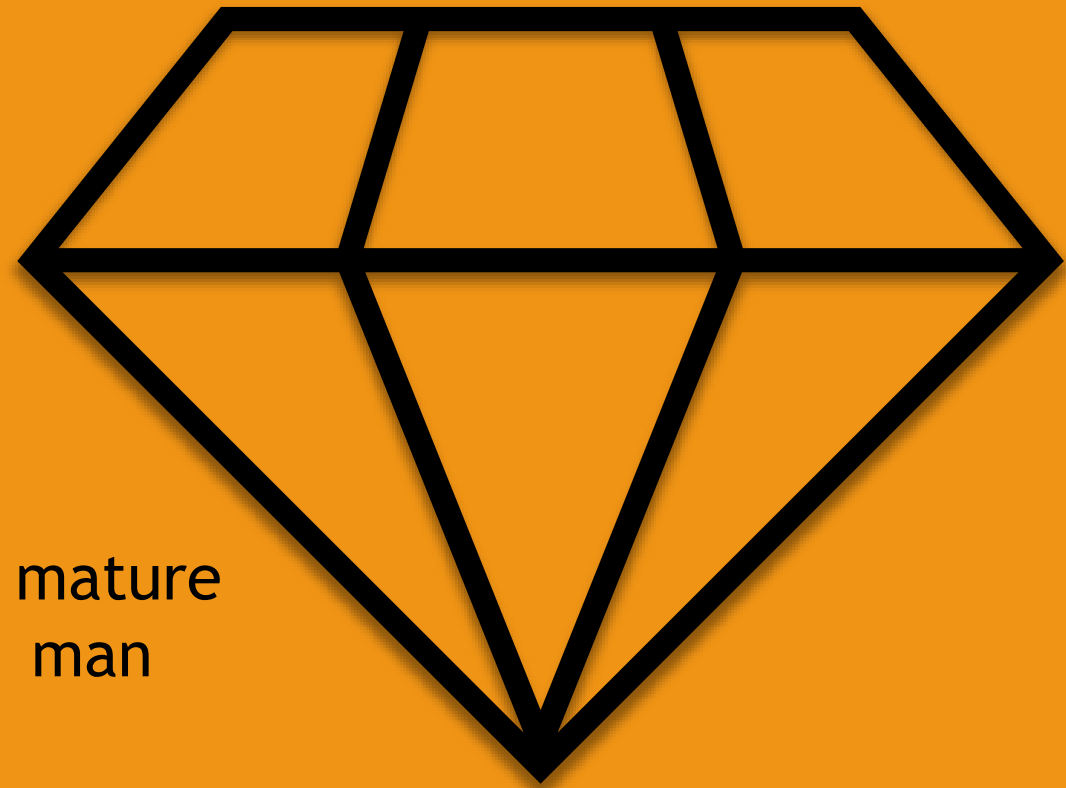
- Unity around gospel truth
- Corporate unity in a deep, personal relationship with Jesus (Phil 3:8-11)

Unity of the faith and  
unity of knowledge of  
God's Son



## Facet #2 of the goal

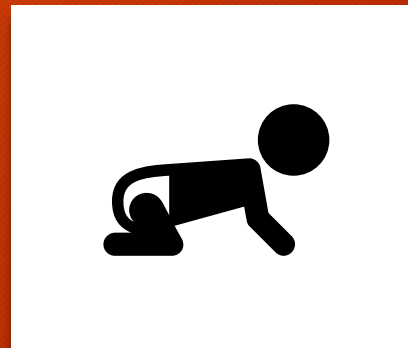
- Mature - *teleios*
- Completion, maturity, being full grown (adult)
- Contrast with children in v. 14 (see also 1 Cor 13:10)



A mature  
man

# To A Mature Man

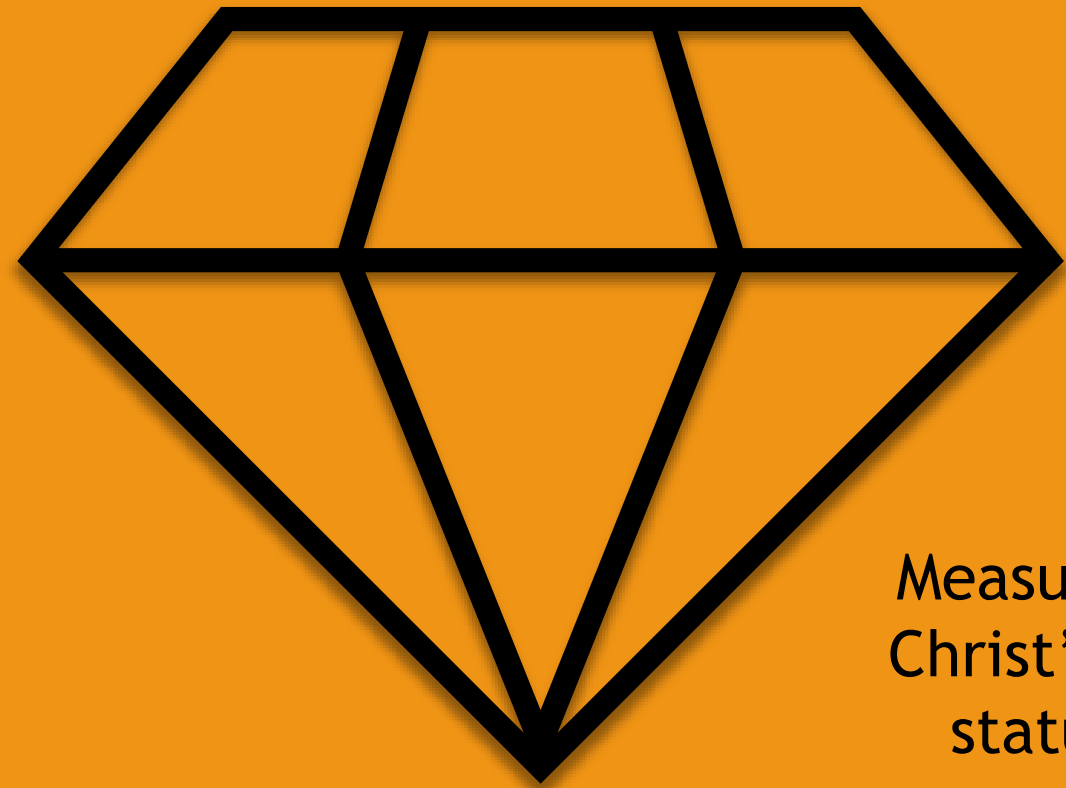
- The church grows toward maturity (adulthood)
- Individual people as part of that church will grow as a part of the whole





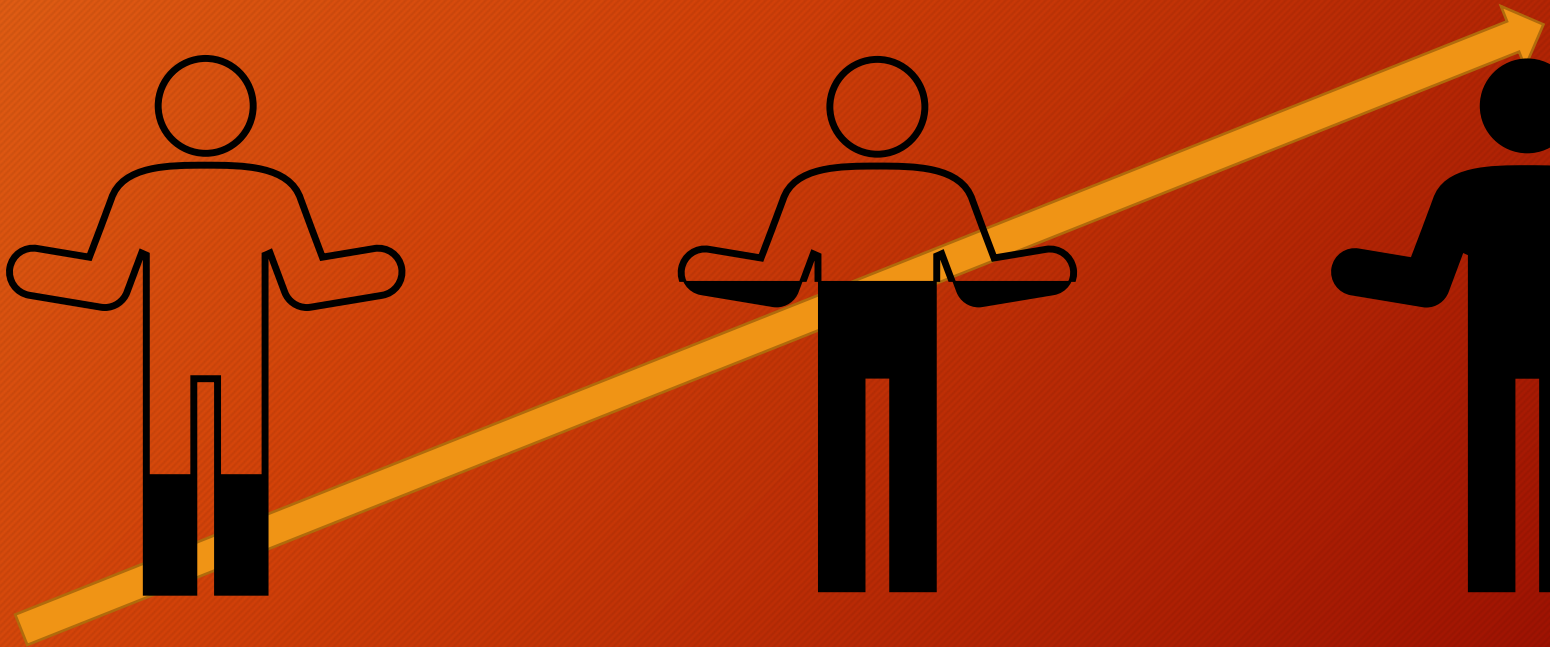
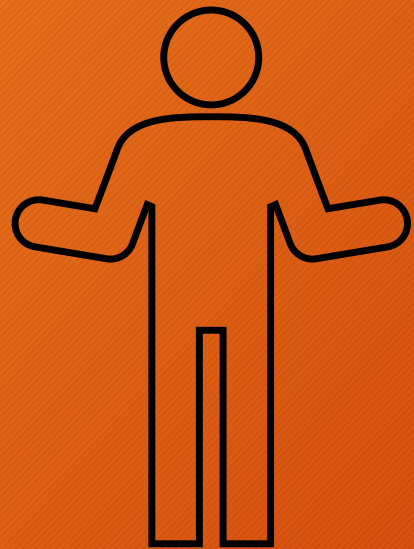
## Facet #3 of the goal

- The measure of Christ's full stature
- He is the standard the church works to attain



Measure of  
Christ's full  
stature

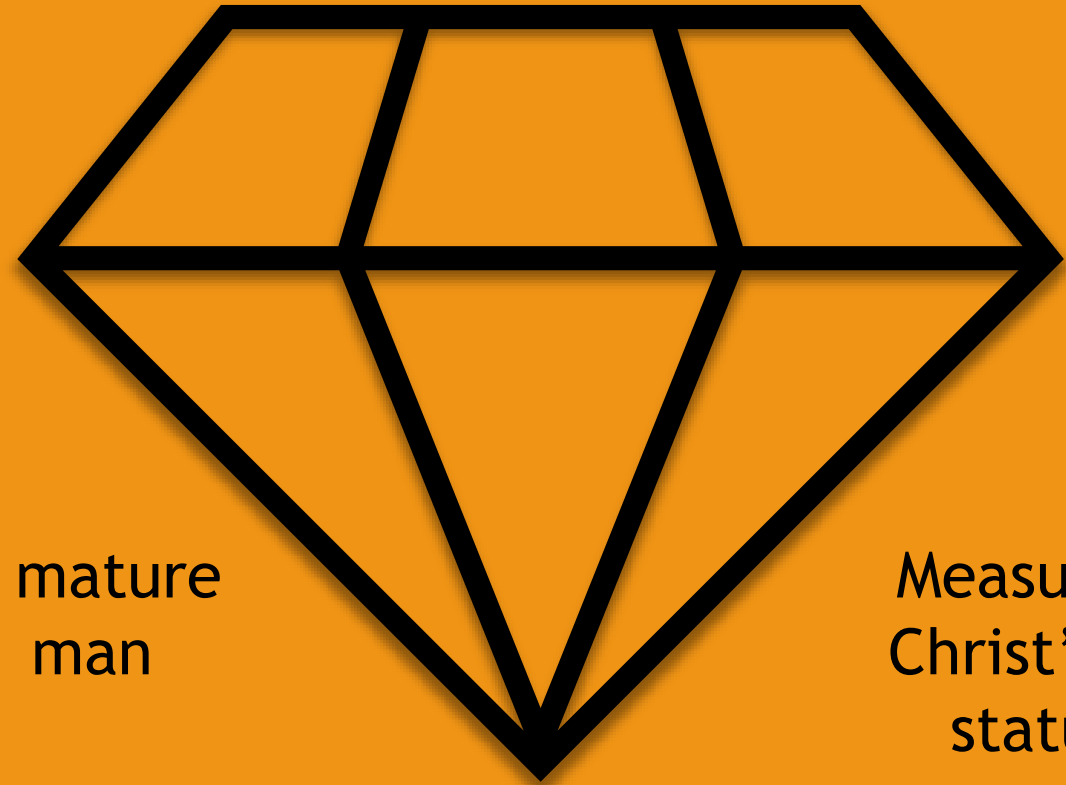
# Measure of Christ's Full Stature



# Jesus' Ultimate Goal

- Three facets of the goal of the work of ministry
- The goal of building up the body of Christ

Unity of the faith and  
unity of knowledge of  
God's Son



A mature  
man

Measure of  
Christ's full  
stature