

Questions for further reflection

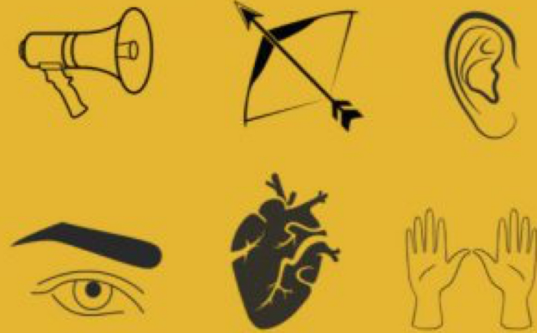
What challenged your thinking or beliefs from today's teaching?

What is one thing that you learned that you had previously not known?

In what ways could you help another part of the body to grow spiritually mature?

Do you find speaking the truth in love to another member of the body easy or difficult? Why or why not?

In what ways can you use your gift to be fitted together with the body so you can help it grow in maturity?



“THE GIFTS”

Definition of spiritual gifts: "Spiritual gifts are channels by which God's "grace" comes to the church for the purpose of edifying the the believer, maturing the church and glorifying God."

If we are desiring spiritual maturity in the body as we are using our spiritual gifts, what is that going to look like? How will we know if we reached that goal?

We must have something to measure it by. The body of Christ should measure up to certain standards of spiritual health. We need to check the vital signs of the body to determine if the church is growing in that way towards maturity.

I. A mature body has _____ _____ Vs 14

Doctrine means _____. _____ of us are _____ being taught doctrine. It's not only _____ but _____ as well. This is why renewing your mind is so important. What you _____ will affect how you _____.

Why does Paul use the word "Children"?

- Children act _____, based on _____ of the moment.
- Children often lack _____
- Children are easily _____ by evil people who want to take _____ of them.

Because of a lack of doctrinal discernment people are duped, tricked and schemed into believing all kinds of false doctrine. So, Paul says, **"Grow from childhood to maturity so that you don't get taken in by the spiritual charlatans!"**

II. A mature body speaks _____ in _____ Vs 15

- A healthy body will speak truth to each other
- A healthy body will speak truth to each other in love

Biblical love is always seeking the _____ of the person. We should be patient, kind, and sensitive in how we _____ with our fellow brothers and sisters. Love does not take _____ advantage of others, but rather _____ self for the good of others. Love is to be the very atmosphere that permeates the church as we grow in Christ (Eph. 4:16)

III. A mature body grows in _____ Vs 15

Growing in Christlikeness is a _____
Remember vs 13? "Until"

This means bringing _____ area of your _____ under Christ's lordship as _____ in His Word.

IV. A mature body is evidenced when the _____ body works _____ vs 16

You have been given a _____ to use in service to one another. Every part has something _____ to contribute. When all of the parts are working in accordance with their specific function, the body grows in _____.

- The phrase "fitted and held together" implies that we must be _____ to one another in order to grow.
- Every joint working and supplying reminds us that every Christian must be a _____, _____ member of the body.