

- True
- False

Every activity of the church must be biblically based and aligned with God's stated purpose for His people.

01.tif

- True
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02.tif

¹¹And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...

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¹⁴so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ...

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¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.
—Ephesians 4:11-16

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Growth is God's Stated Purpose for His People

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Growth, as it relates to the church collectively and Christians individually, is God's idea and not ours.

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"I will build my church." —Matthew 16:18

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God wants the church to build (Ephesians 4:12) and grow (Ephesians 4:15) in two ways:
Enlargement—Membership into the Body
Size (Matthew 28:18-20): Preach, Baptize
Enrichment—Discipleship into Maturity
Health

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...to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...
—Ephesians 4:13

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...we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ... —Ephesians 4:15

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Growth Toward Maturity is a Process

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God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. —**Philippians 2:13**

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Growth Toward Maturity Follows a Pattern

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Stability—Ephesians 4:14

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Responsibility

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"It has been said that truth without love is brutality and love without truth is hypocrisy." —**Warren Wiersbe**

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Purity—Ephesians 4:17-20

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They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. —Ephesians 4:19

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Charity—Ephesians 5:2

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Tenacity—Ephesians 6:10-18

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"A fanatic is a person who can't change his mind and won't change the subject." —Winston Churchill

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"This report, by its very length, defends itself against the risk of being read." —Winston Churchill

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"A lie gets halfway around the world before the truth has a change to get its pants on." —Winston Churchill

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"Ending a sentence with a preposition is something up with which we will not put." —Winston Churchill

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"I'm just preparing my impromptu remarks."
—Winston Churchill

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Growth Toward Maturity is With Purpose

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...¹⁹and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.
—Ephesians 6:19-20

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