

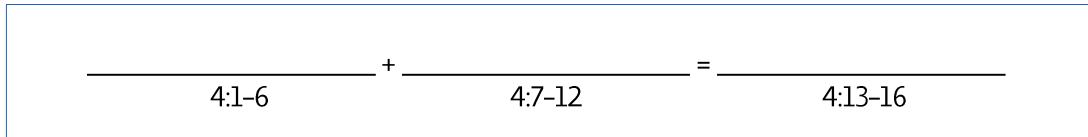
Maturity

Ephesians 4:14-16

"And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." (11-12)

An _____ church is a _____ church.

The goal is a unified _____.



Immaturity

"So 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." (14)

"children" (in this context) = _____, impulsive, _____

Today maturity often = _____, _____

The veneration of _____ and the exhortation of commitment within our culture do not mean that the gospel is wrong. It just means that our culture is going through a _____ that brings it into conflict with the values of that gospel. And the culture will move on, even though it makes life uncomfortable for us now!

Alister McGrath

The antidote to this childish instability is not

blind _____, but...

- _____ - "grow up in every way" (15)
- _____ - held together by every joint" (16)

You might be _____ (tossed to and fro, carried about, deceived)...

- If you believe your _____ are _____.
- If you don't welcome _____.
- If you rarely _____ yourself.
- If you do not identify _____ in books, music, movies and TV shows.
- If you believe you are _____ to _____ deception.
- If you are never _____ when reading the Bible.
- If you cannot _____.
- If you don't live with a sense of _____.