

BY HEART

When Scripture becomes second nature

Philippians 3:15-16 | Page 1674

By Heart: Philippians 3

- **A joy and safeguard**
- **Not by flesh or works-** repent of them as rubbish
- **Knowing Christ-** to gain and be found in Christ
- **Justification-** the righteousness of God through faith
- **Uniting with Christ** in his sufferings and redemption
- **Attainment of “perfection”** through faith that produces humility and rejects boasting
- This is the **attitude of maturity and unity**

Gospel spirituality creates maturity and unity

That is joyful and stands firm
(Purity is assumed)

Maturity and Unity

Philippians 1:27

“Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that **you stand firm in the one Spirit, as one soul/self striving together for the faith** of the gospel.”

Maturity and Unity

Philippians 2:1-5 NIV83

“If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then **make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.** 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.”

Gospel spirituality creates maturity and unity

That is joyful and stands firm

Maturity and Unity

Ephesians 4:1-6

“As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to **live a life worthy of the calling you have received.** ² Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³ **Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.** ⁴

There is one body and one Spirit-- just as you were called to one hope when you were called-- ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”

Maturity and Unity

Ephesians 4:11-14

“It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that **the body of Christ may be built up** 13 until we **all reach unity in the faith** and in the knowledge of the Son of God **and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fulness** of Christ. 14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming.”
(standing firm)

Gospel spirituality creates maturity and unity

That is joyful and stands firm

Colossians 3:7-10 - Theological Transition Section

“You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have **put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator...**”

Colossians 3:11-14 - Theological Transition Section

“¹¹ Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but **Christ is all, and is in all.** ¹² Therefore, **as God's chosen people**, holy and dearly loved, clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ **Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances** you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which **binds them all together in perfect unity.**”

Gospel spirituality creates maturity and unity

That is joyful and stands firm

John 17:15-23

"My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. **Sanctify them** by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them **I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.**

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, **that all of them may be one**, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us **so that the world may believe** that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, **that they may be one** as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be **brought to complete unity to let the world know** that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

Gospel spirituality creates maturity and unity

But is that the point of **THIS** verse?

Philippians 3:15

“All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you.”

**Gospel spirituality creates
a mature and uniting
*attitude***

Philippians 3:15

“Let us therefore, as many as are mature/perfect, have this **assessment**; and if in anything you have a different **opinion**, God will reveal that also to you...”

Philippians 3:15

“Let us therefore, as many as are mature/perfect, have this **attitude**; and if in anything you have a different **attitude**, God will reveal that also to you...”

1. Gospel Spirituality forms a mature attitude

Philippians 3:15

“Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this ***attitude***; and if in anything you have a different ***attitude***, God will reveal that also to you...”

Attitude shapes your heart

Philippians 2:5 “Your *attitude* should be the same as that of Christ Jesus...”

Attitude shapes your heart

Ephesians 4:22-24

“You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made **new in the attitude [lit. “spirit”] of your minds**; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”

Attitude shapes your heart

1 Peter 4:1-2

“Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with **the same attitude**, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. 2 As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.”

“Good and Noble hearts”

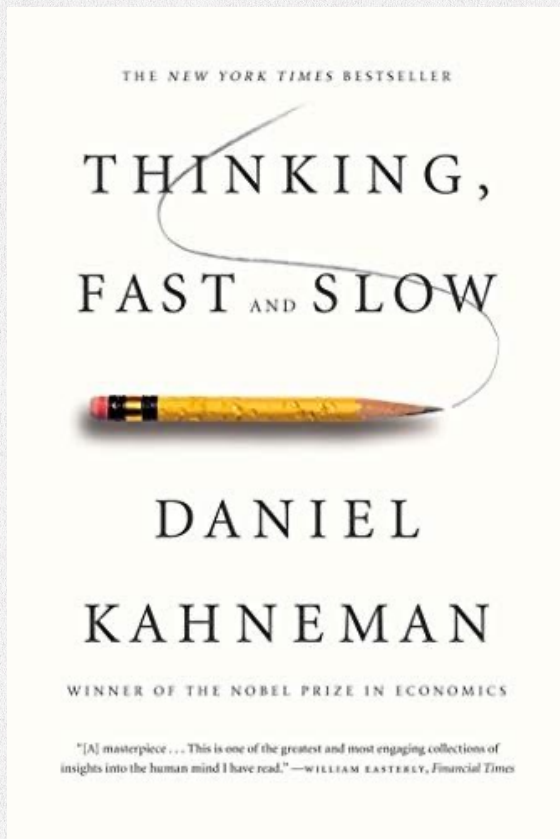
Luke 8:12 vs 15- the word stolen from the heart vs. good and noble heart that believes.

Acts 2:46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts...

(Romans 15:14 “you...full of goodness”)

This word for “attitude”, “assessment”- is used 4 times in Romans 12

The Intuitive mind

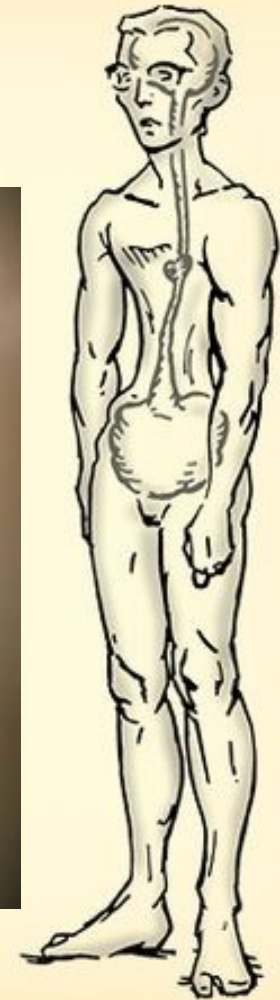


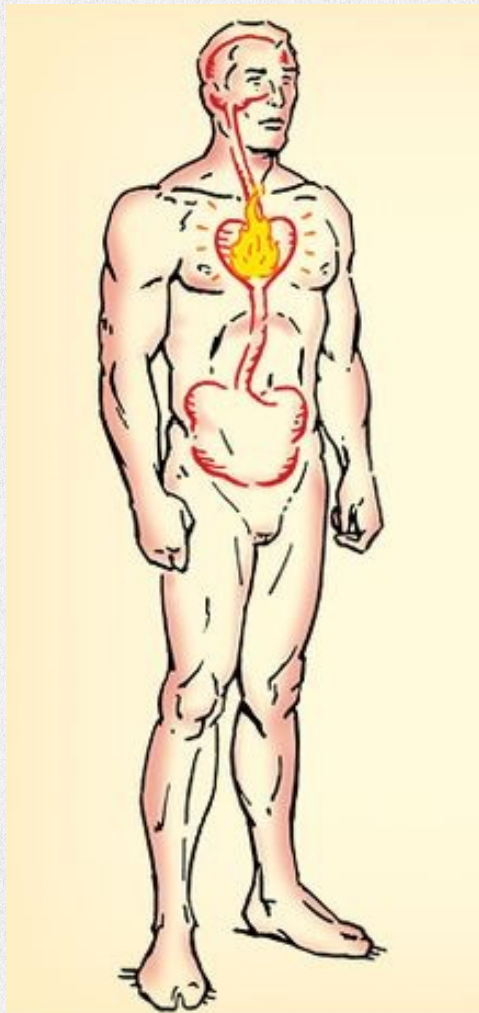
Most of our life is directed by our “heart” – something meant to be more than our reactive emotions and visceral desires.

These other faculties need to be trained: heart, conscience, sentiment, passion, conviction...

Only with these made mature can we have a “good and noble” heart.

The Heart/Chest

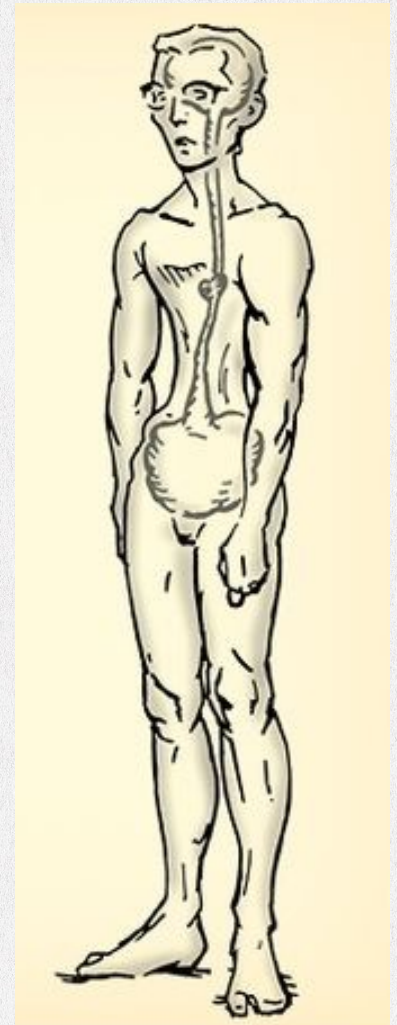


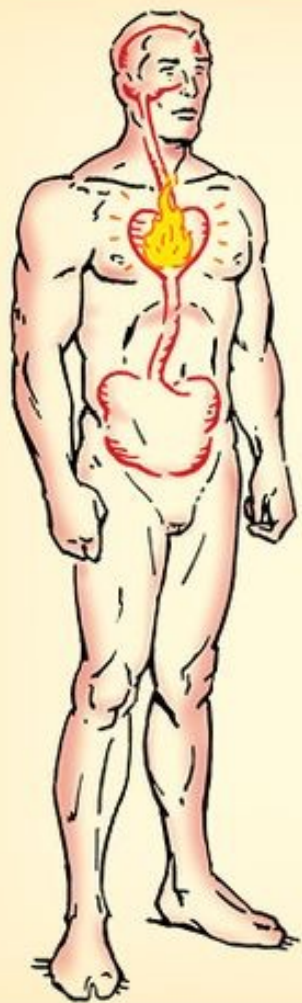


The Heart/Chest

“The head rules the belly through the chest...the chest-magnanimity-sentiment- these are the indispensable liaison officers between cerebral man and visceral man.”

- The Abolition of Man
C.S. Lewis.





The Heart/Chest

“Without objective values, no justification of virtue will enable a man to be virtuous. **Without the aid of trained emotions, the intellect is powerless against the animal organism.**”

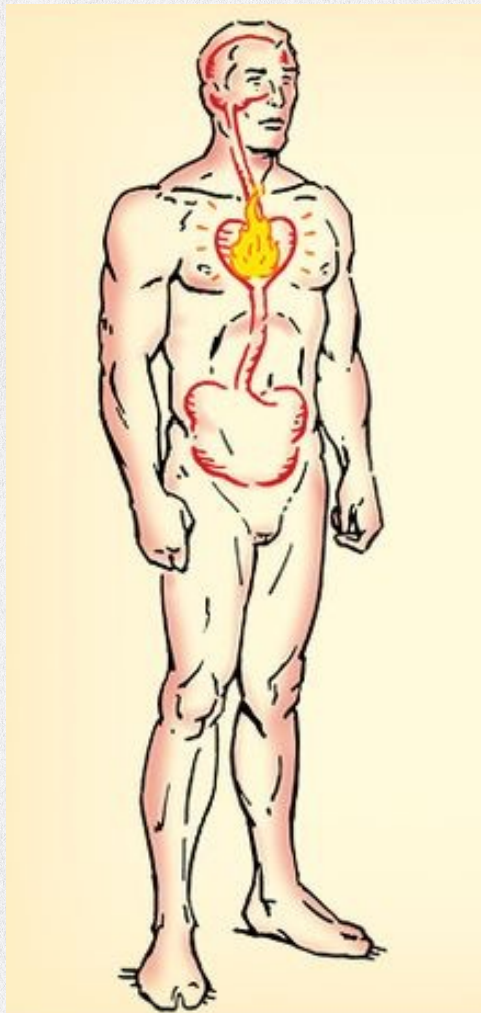
These are:

“Men without Chests”

The Abolition of Man

C.S. Lewis.

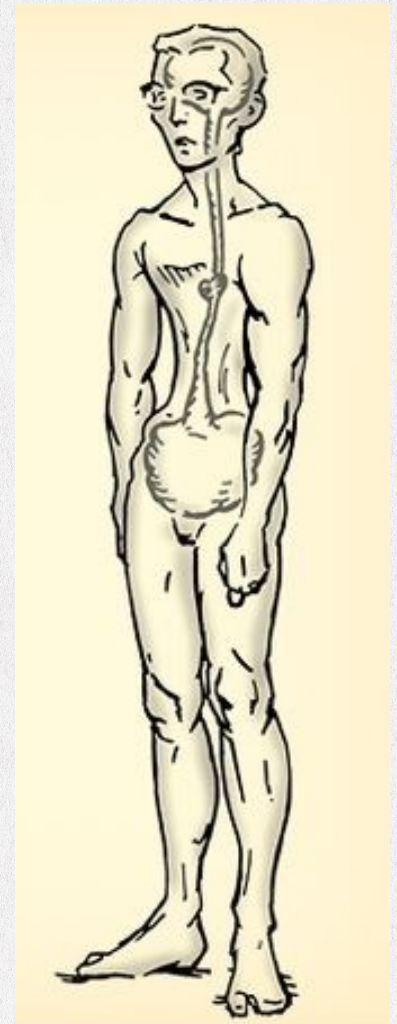


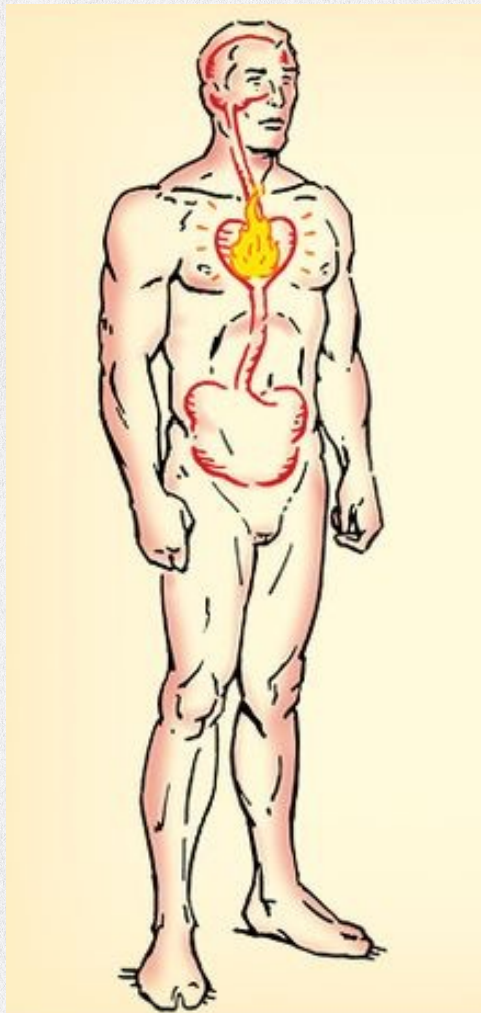


The Heart/Chest

The renewed heart unites spiritual and rational man with visceral and physical man.

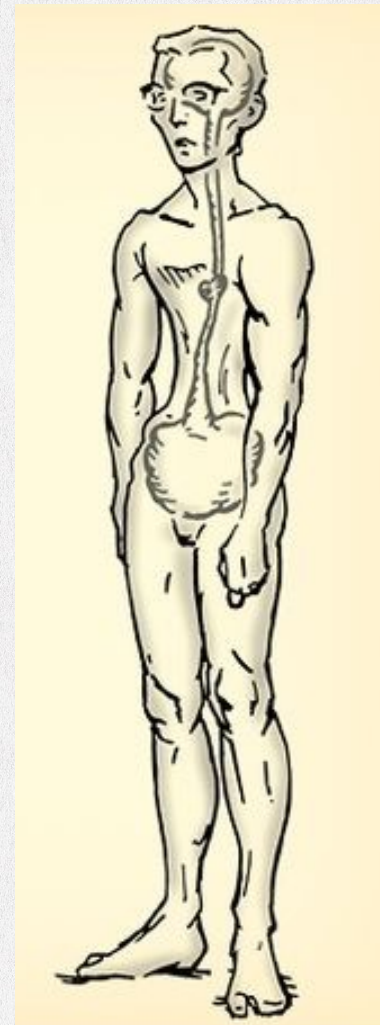
It brings reason and justice to passion and directs desire to good ends and fills pleasure with joy.

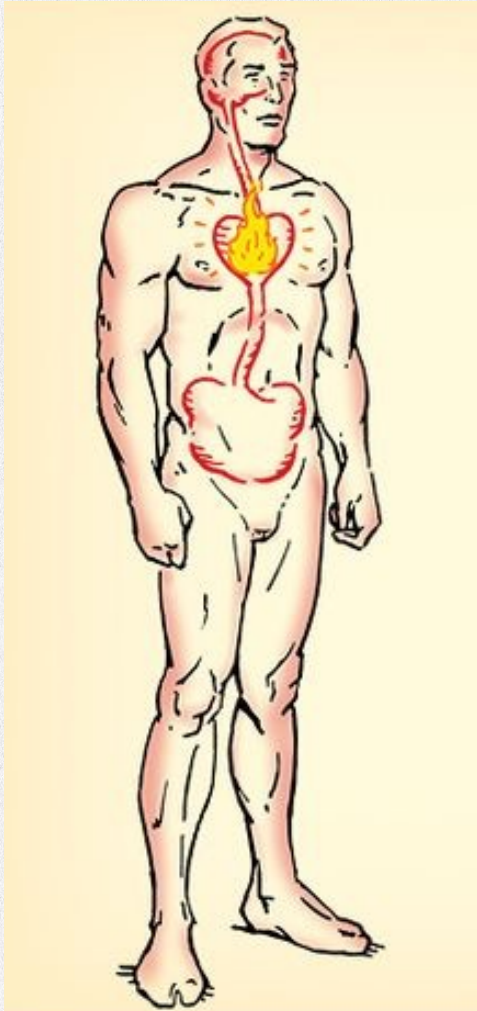




The Heart/Chest

“Renew the Spirit of your mind.”





Training our Sentiments

Self-Control

Devotional Meditation

Prayer

Worship

Fellowship

Service, generosity and sacrifice

Study and learning

Suffering and training

Spiritual rituals

Praise and discipline from good authority

Gracious striving

In the Gospel – Justification, union with Christ, citizenship in heaven, hope in the resurrection

By the Spirit- Experiencing God's power through alignment/attunement

Through the Church- The body of Christ and family of God

Over time- maturing is progressive and developmental but also, very real.

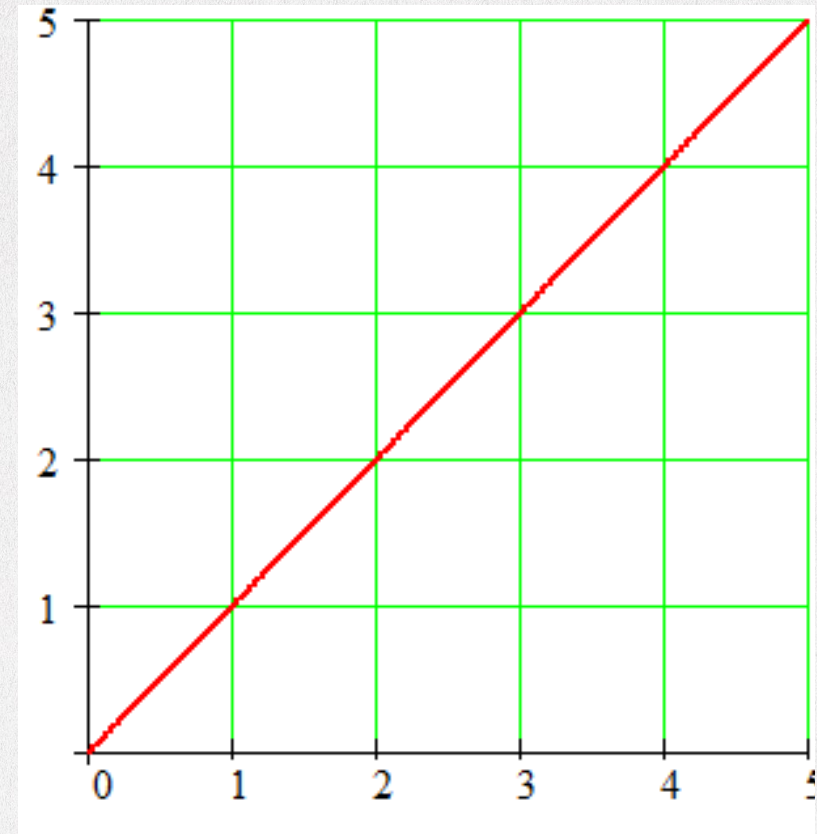
With courage and humility- to keep to Christ's way and means.



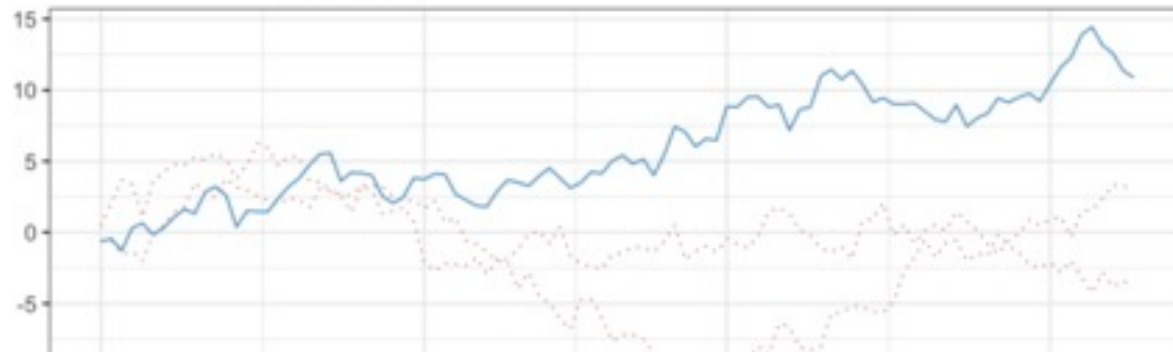
2. Gospel Spirituality forms humble patience in disagreement

You will have disagreements

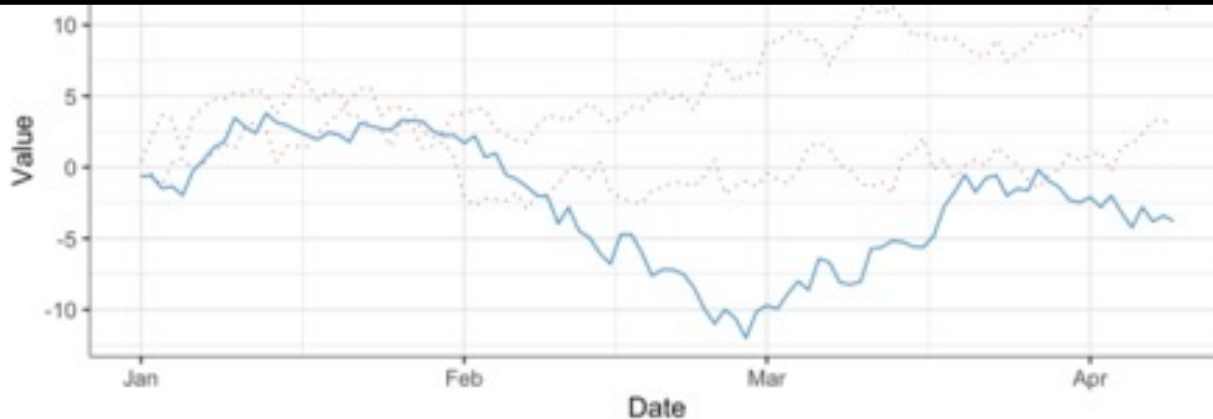
1. We are a diverse people
2. We are people
3. There is Sin, the Flesh, the World and the Devil
4. It's easy to fall into ungracious striving
5. Progress is not (ever) a straight line



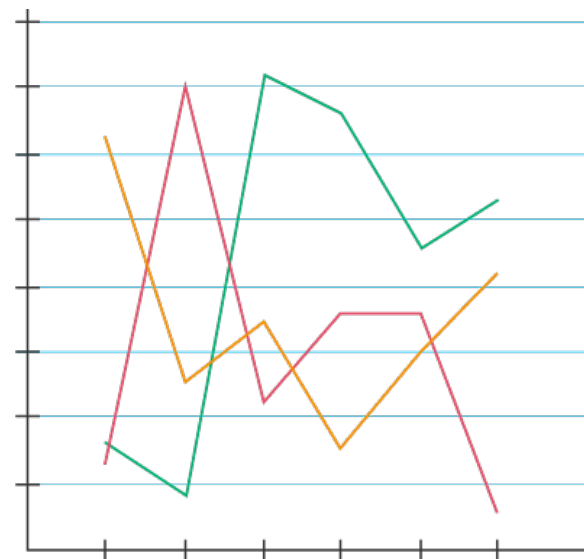
This chart is built with gghighlight



Development is non-linear **BOTH**
WAYS



We are always living with each other
in different states of maturity.
We are the “family” of God.



Philippians 3:15-17

“All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And **if on some point you think differently**, that too God will make clear to you. Only let us **live up to** what we have already attained. Join with others in **following my example**, brothers, and **take note** of those who live according to **the pattern we gave you.**”

Philippians 3:15-17

“All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. **Only let us live up to what we have already attained.** Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you.”

Philippians 3:16

**“Only let us live up to what we have
already attained.”**

sh man ... house ... The ... in came down ... the st ... is rose, and the ...
s blew ... against the ... e, and it fell with a great crash." - Matthe ...
-27 "He ... them this parable: "No one tears a piece ... of a new garment to patch ...
old one. Otherwise, they will have torn the new garment ... and the patch from the ne ...
l not match the old." - Luke 5:36 "Neither do people ... pour new wine into ...
eskins. If they do, the skins will burst; the wine will run out and the wineskin ...
l be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins ... and both are preserved."
threw 9:17 Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out t ...
his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds ...
e and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It ...
ang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants ...
e scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among ...
s, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where ...
produced a crop - a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown." - Matthew 13:3- ...
he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat ...
h them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the ...
eivers: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather ...
wheat and bring it into my barn.'" - Matthew 13:24-30 He told them another parable ...
he kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his ...
ld. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest ...
garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its ...
nches." - Matthew 13:31-32 Again he asked, "What shall I compare the kingdom of God ...
It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour ...
worker ... dough." - Luke 13:20-21 "The kingdom of God is like a man who hid ...
asure ... man found it, he hid it again ...

BY HEART