1. Gifted people help build a _________________ people.  
   Eph 2:21-22

2. Truth in love grows a _________________ people.  
   Heb 5:14; 1 Pet 2:2;  
   II Tim 1:13; 4:3

3. Each one working builds a _________________ people.  
   Jn 13:17

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DISCUSSION

1. Review Ephesians 4:11-12 and discuss the value of each of these leadership gifts to the local church: apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds, and teachers.

2. Read Ephesians 4:13. This verse lists four goals: unity, knowledge of the Son of God, maturity, and fullness of Christ. We covered unity last week.
   A. Now describe the latter three.
   B. What are some examples of each in a Christian's life?

3. Read v. 14 in NIV. The Greek word translated as infants is different from the word translated as children in Matthew 18:3. What is the difference in meaning between these two words?

4. A. How do we know when a teaching is true?  
   B. What are some clear current examples of false teachings?  
   C. What is the ultimate aim of false teachings?

5. How does unity in our faith, knowledge of Christ, and maturity in the fullness of the Lord protect us from being battered by the storms of false doctrine, crafty schemes, and the deceit of human agents?

6. Consider Ephesians 4:15. Why do you think Paul contrasts v. 14 with "speaking the truth in love"? What does that look like?

7. A. According to v. 16b, what is the overriding characteristic of a built-up body/church?  
   B. What would it look like to try building up the body without this characteristic?

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APPLICATION

Write down the names of people in leadership that God has placed in your life. Consider how God would like to use their gifting to mature you and grow you into the “fullness” that is Christ.

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PRAYER

Make a commitment to pray regularly for our leaders and your relationship with them. Pray also that the fellowship at Bethel would be unified and become fully mature in our Lord so that our ultimate purpose may be realized in Christ.