All Gifts Matter

1 Corinthians 12:12-22

Does my gift matter? Yes, your gift makes a difference.

BELIEVERS ARE ONE IN CHRIST

1 Corinthians 12:12-14

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What phrases does Paul use to highlight the unity of the church?

12 For as the body is one and has many parts, and all the parts of that body, though many, are **one** body—so also is **Christ**. 13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. 14 So the body is not one part but many.

All tasks involve many parts working together. The body needs unity.

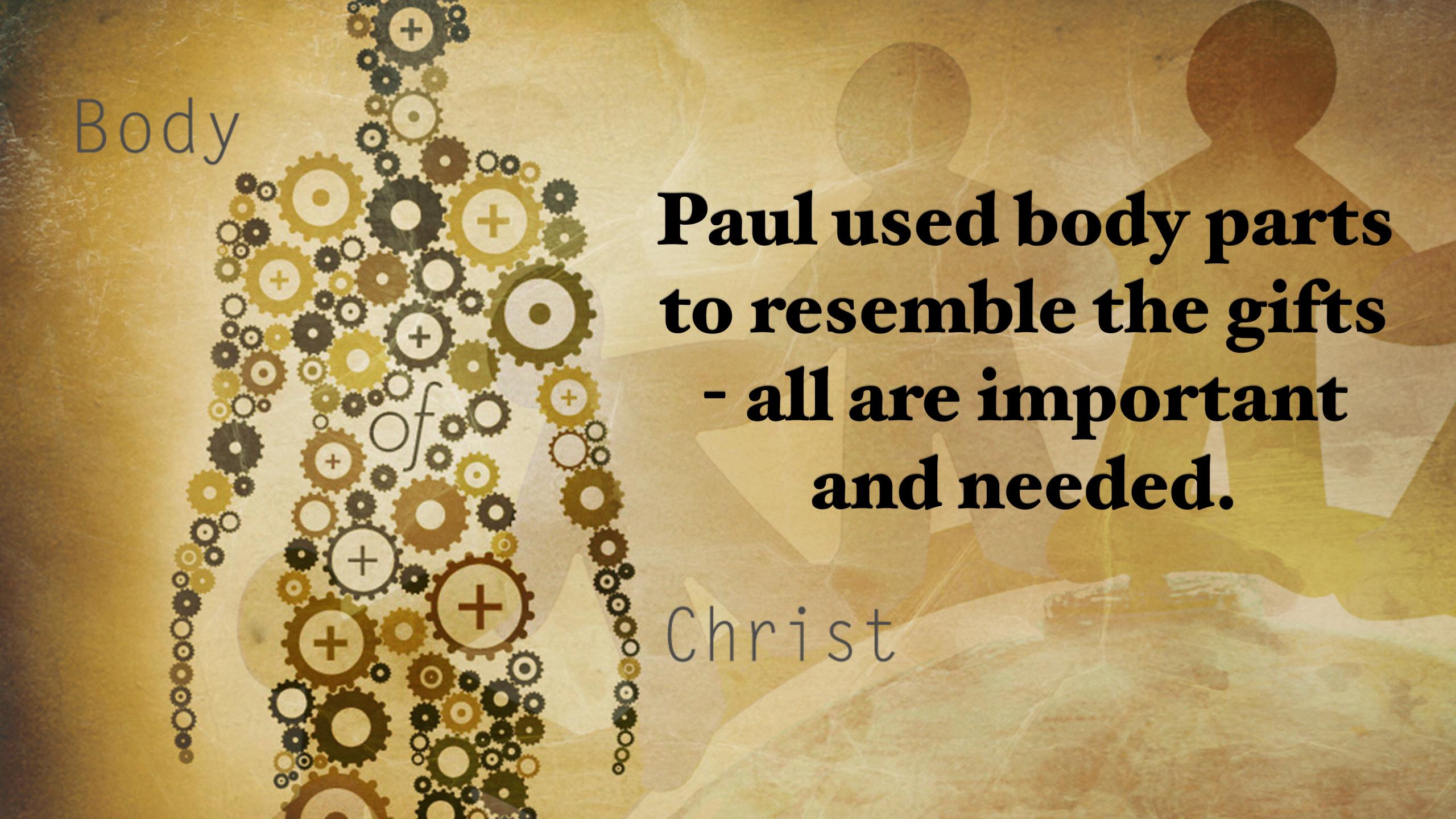


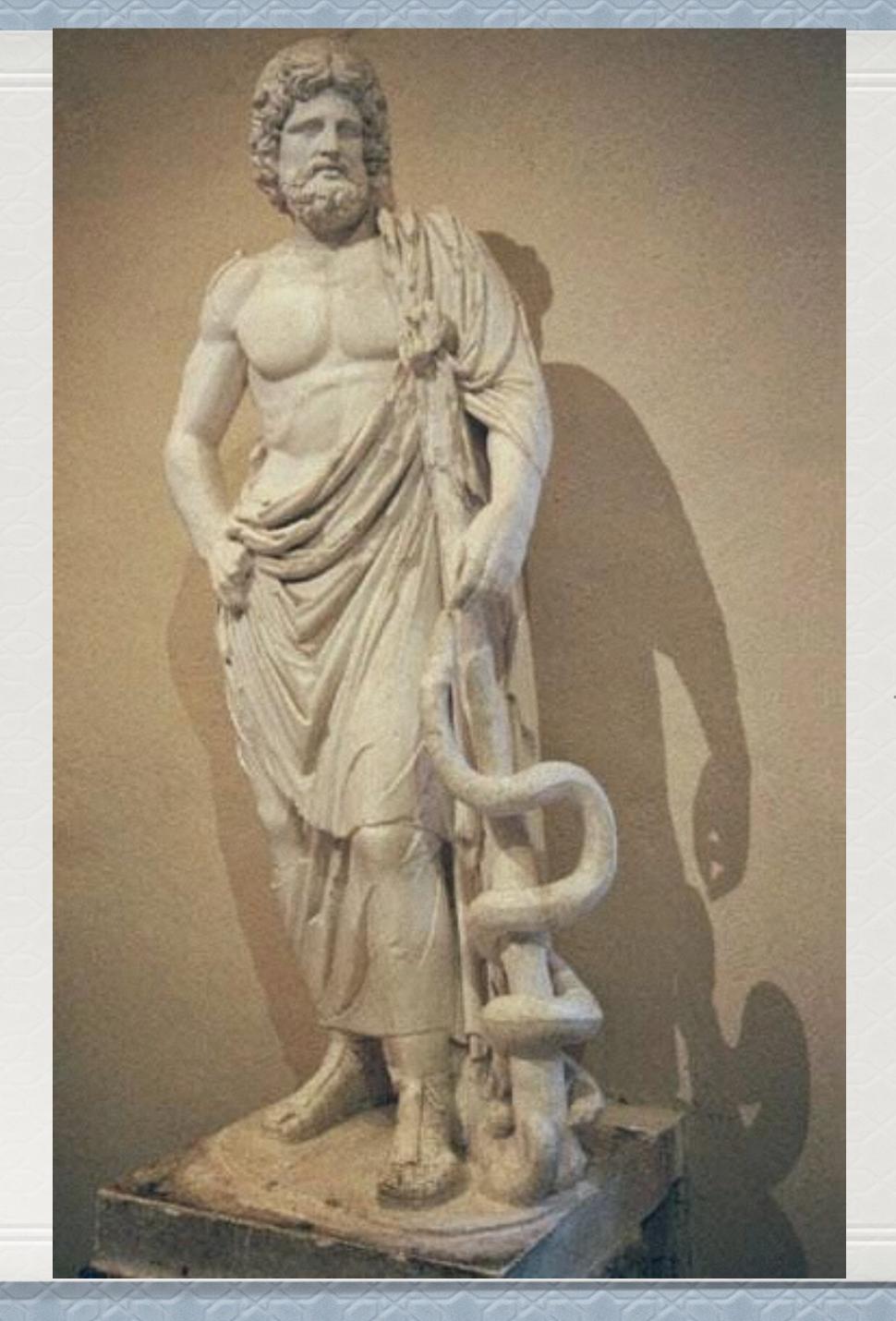
Notice the word "keep"

We are already one!

Write down some of your favorite authors on the index card.

Great authors use comparisons to simplify complex material.





Asclepius, the greek god of medicine

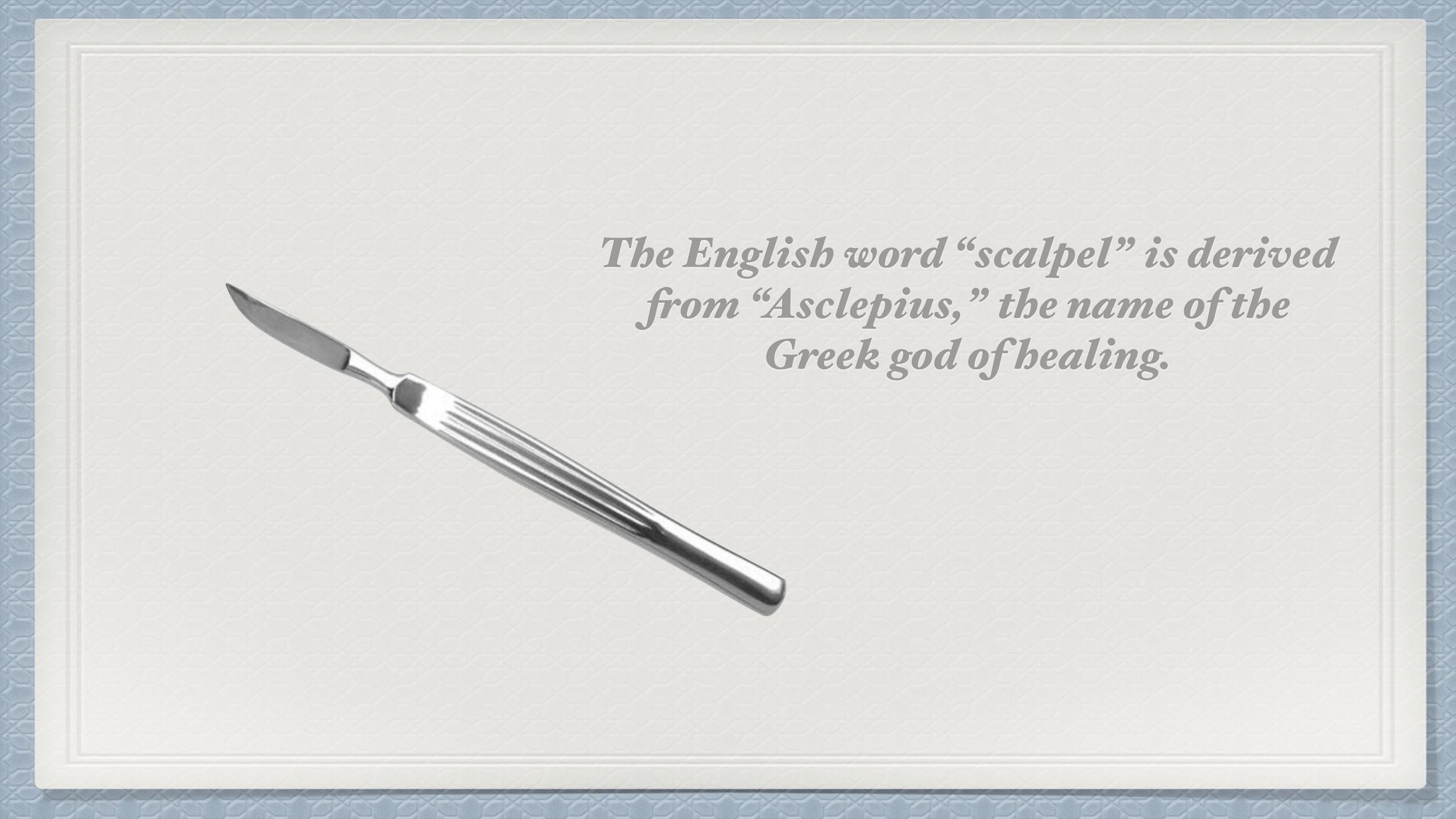


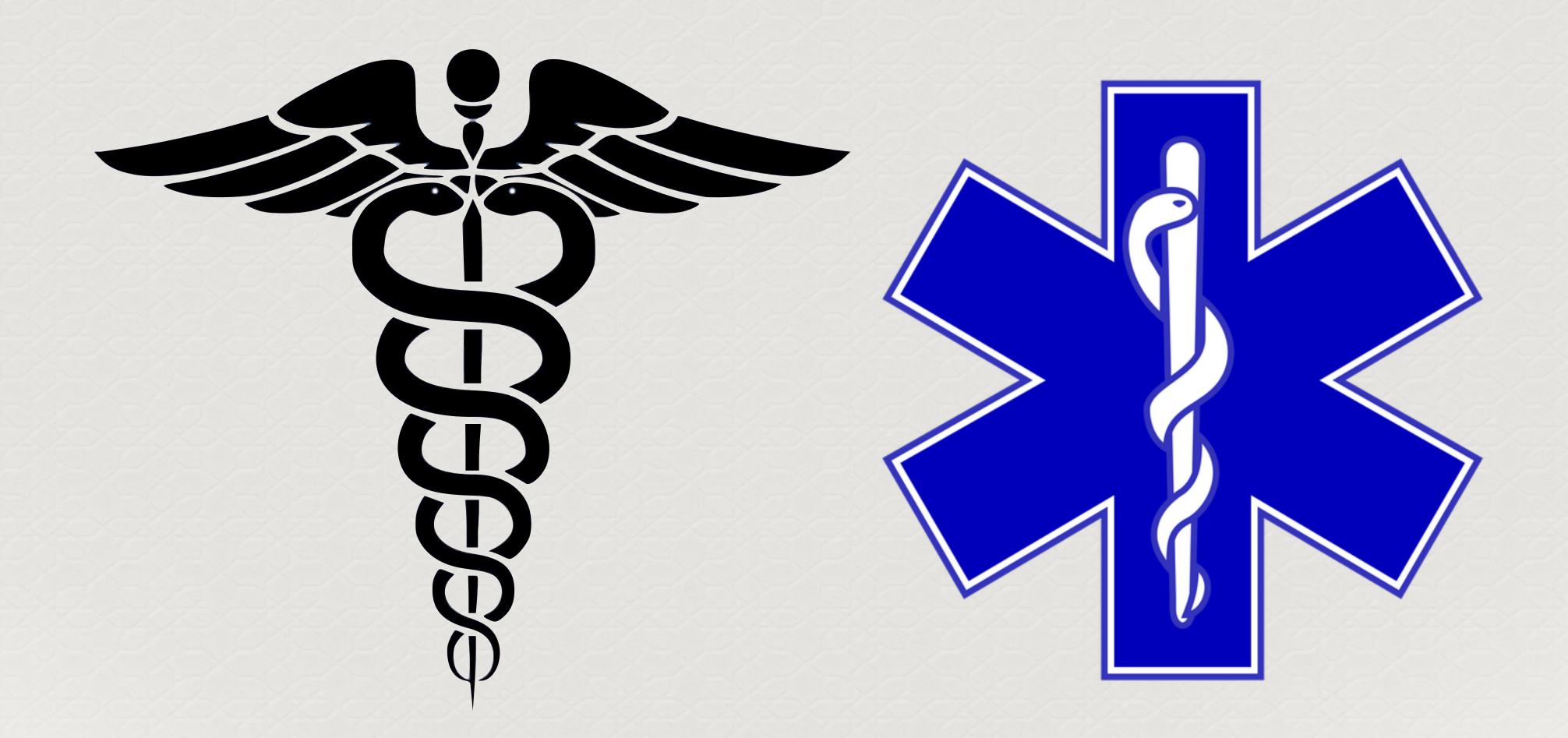
incubatio, sleeping in the temple



terra-cotta reproductions of body parts that had been healed

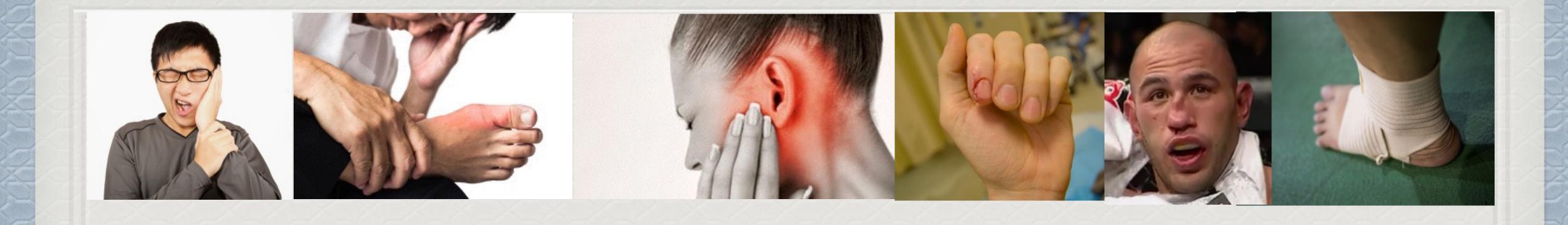






ABELIEVER'S GIFTS ARE IMPORTANT

1 Corinthians 12:15-20



Describe a time when an injury to a less important part of your body caused a major problem.

1 Corinthians 12:15-20

15 If the foot should say, "Because I'm not a hand, I don't belong to the body," in spite of this it still belongs to the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I'm not an eye, I don't belong to the body," in spite of this it still belongs to the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But now God has placed each one of the parts in one body just as He wanted. 19 And if they were all the same part, where would the body be? 20 Now there are many parts, yet one body.



All gifts are important.

Which is the great struggle for you: considering yourself more important or useful or underestimating your importance?

How do you keep a proper balance between these two extremes?

ALL BELIEVER'S GIFTS ARE NEEDED

1 Corinthians 12:21-22

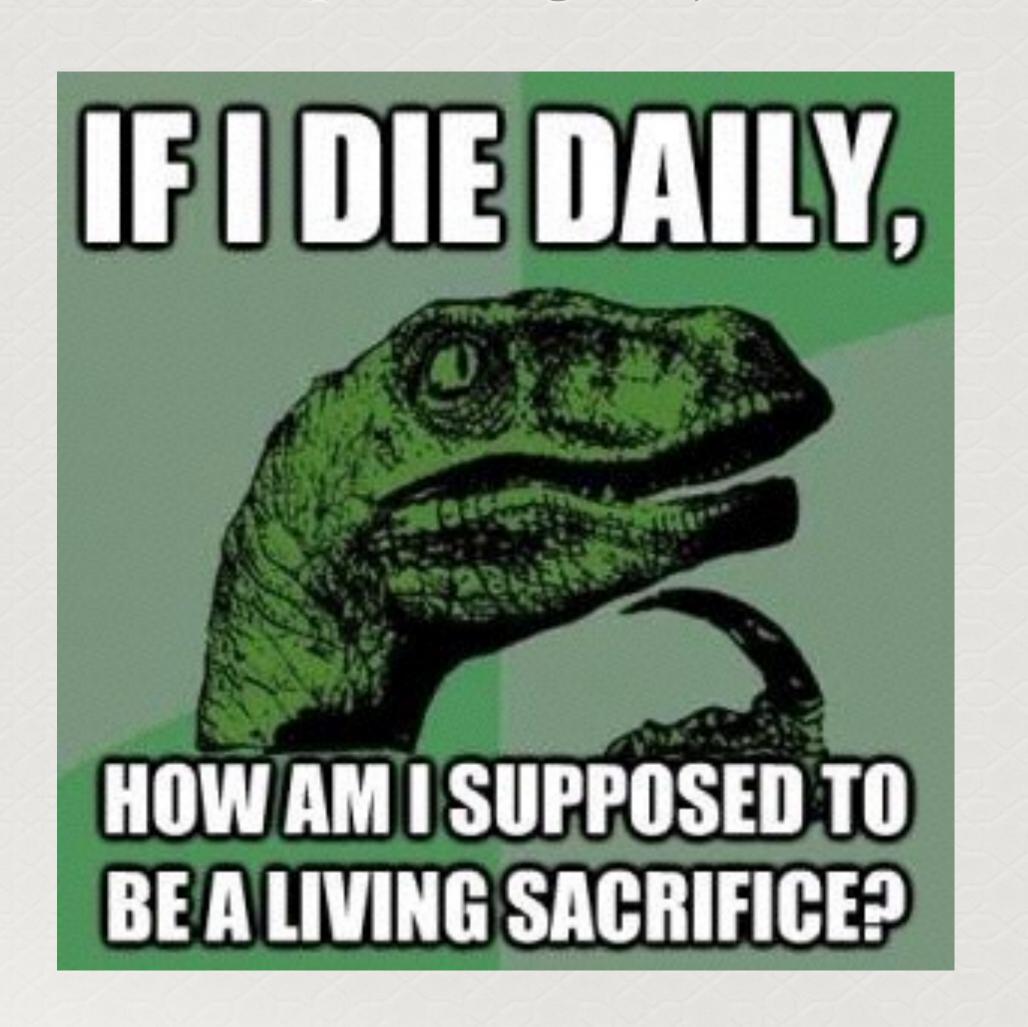
I Corinthians 12:21-22

21 So the eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" Or again, the head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you!"
22 But even more, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are necessary.

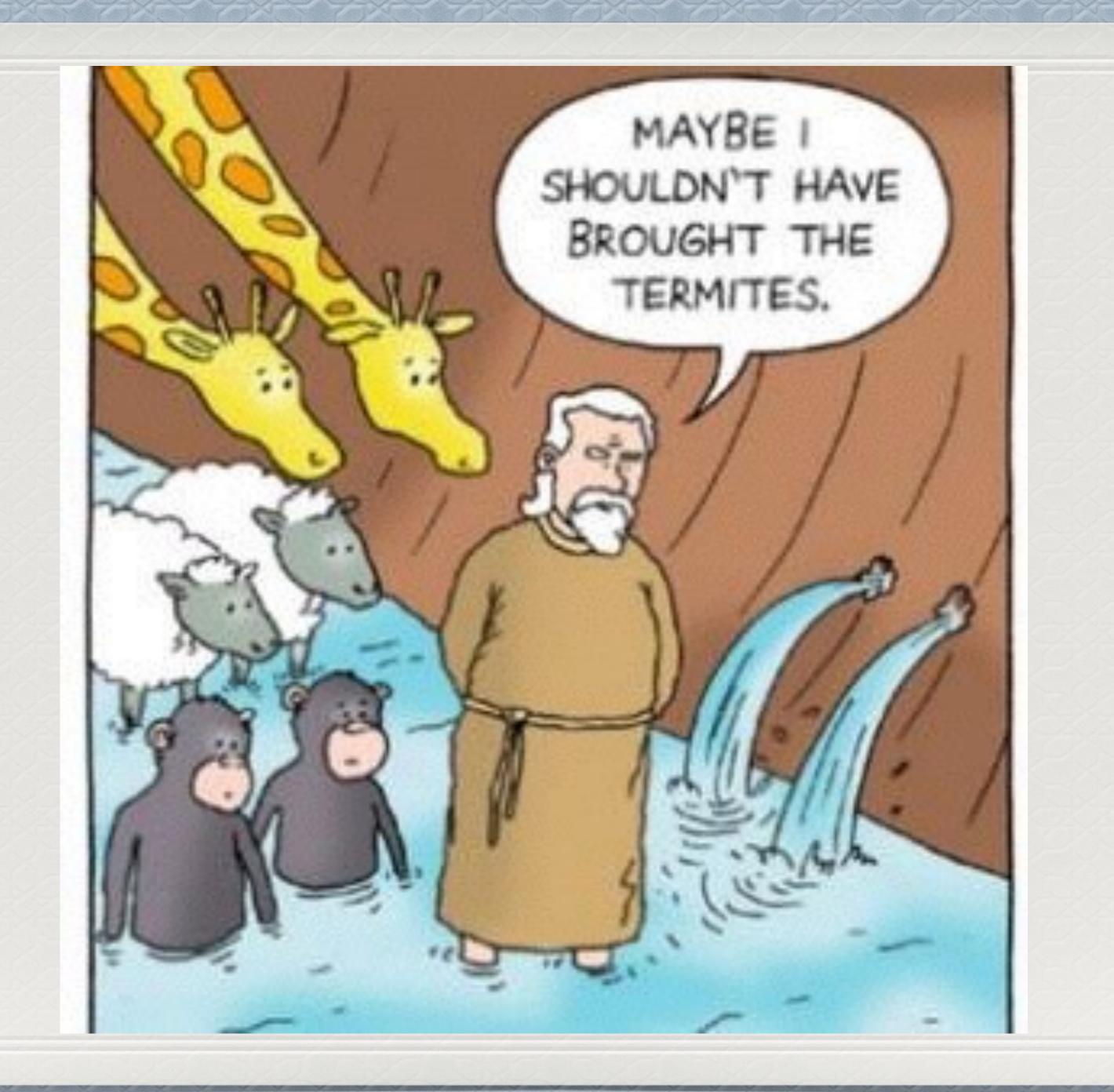


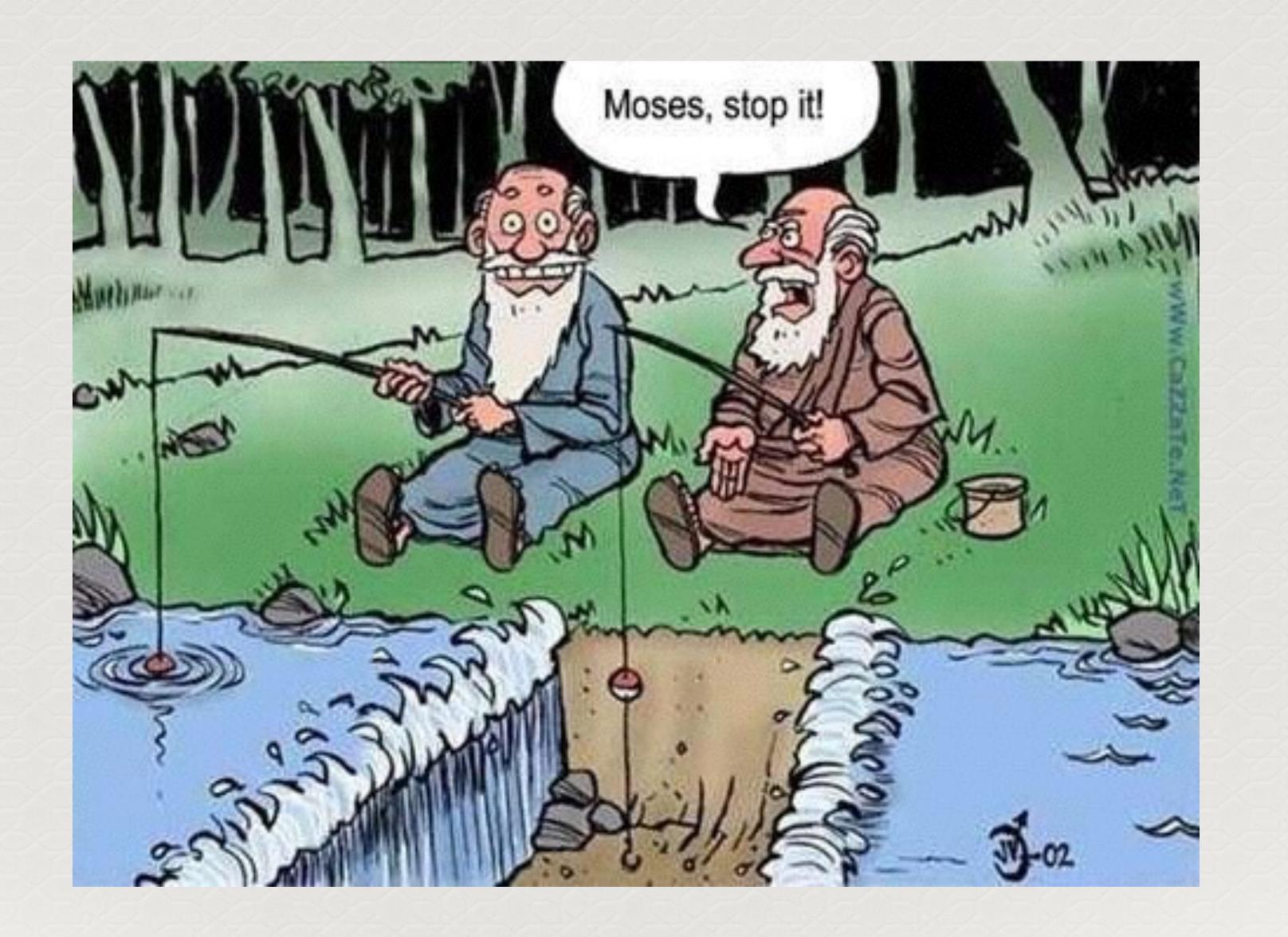
Pauls got jokes! Think back at vs. 15-16 and find the humor in it.

Speaking of jokes...here's some other jokes...









On a scale from 1-10, how well are you using your gift to serve God in your church and community?



STEPS TO USE YOUR GIFTS

1: Think about your spiritual gifts.

2: Examine your calendar and think about ways you are using your gifts to spread the gospel.

Ask yourself: What hobbies or habits keep me from using my gifts more effectively?

3: Pray and ask God to open a door for you to serve him with what he has given you.

Closing Thought: It is a privilege to serve the One who saved us!