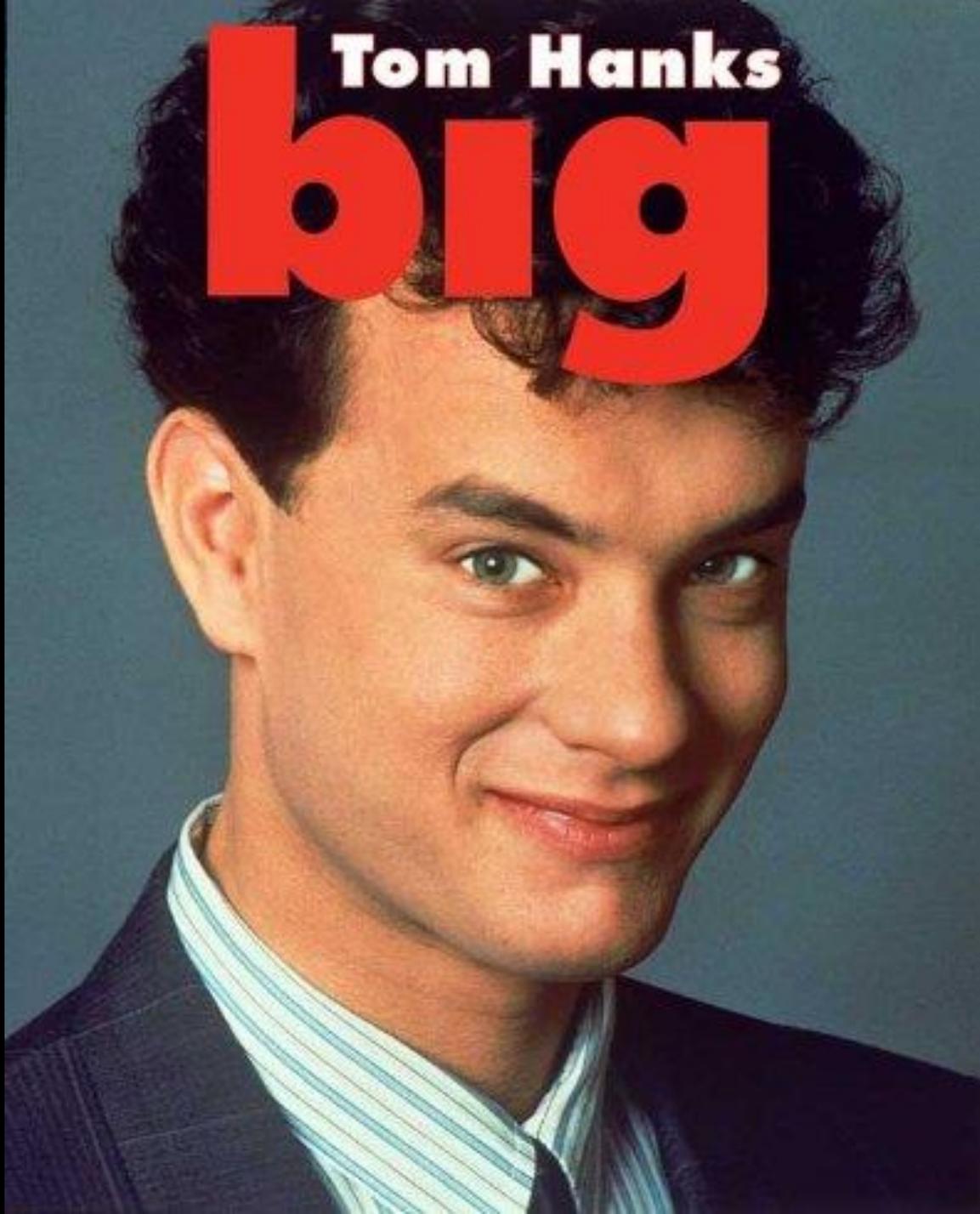


1 Corinthians 3v1-23

MATURITY

Tom Hanks

big



3v1: Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly – mere infants in Christ.

3v2: I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.

3v2: I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.



3v3: You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans?

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Stop being a baby!

3v4-5: For when one says, 'I follow Paul,' and another, 'I follow Apollos,' are you not mere human beings?

⁵ What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe...

1) Faithful Farmers

V6: I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.

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1) Faithful Farmers

V7: So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

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- Humbling

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V7: So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

- Humbling
- Encouraging

2) Careful Builders

V9: For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.

2) Careful Builders

V10: By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care.

V11: For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.



2) Careful Builders

V12-13: If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work.

2) Careful Builders

V14: If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward.

V15: If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.

2) Careful Builders

V16: Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?

V17: If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.

Maturity Matters...

Col 1v28-29: We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹ To this end I labour, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.

1 Cor 3v10: By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder...

1 Cor 2v2: For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

