

Larger, Please

It is said that one day Michelangelo entered his studio to examine the work of his students. As he came to the painting of one of his favorite pupils, he stood and looked at it for a long time. Then, to the utter surprise of the class, he suddenly took a brush and wrote one word across the canvas.

That one word he splashed on the painting was *amplius*, meaning “larger.”

Michelangelo was not rejecting the work, for it exhibited great skill and was good as far as it went. But the small size of the canvas had made its design appear cramped. It needed to be expanded.

Is there a personal application in this story? Do we sell ourselves short as we consider the talents bestowed upon us by God? Is the dream for the work we do and for the company’s success in its mission not big enough?

In the spiritual sense, God may have to write *amplius* across many of our lives. Our spiritual outlook becomes confined, and our understanding of what God wants to do in and through us gets restricted by our small faith and limited spiritual growth.

He wants us to increase the dimensions of our spiritual lives, widen our outreach and strengthen our witness.

--Beecher Hunter