

The Purpose of Christ's Gifts – Ephesians 4:12–16



1) A Serving Body – Equipped to Build Each Other Up (vs12,16)

Words: Attending, all, built, Christ, doctrine, example, expands, feed, growth, life, love, qualified, receive, saints, service, themselves, tools

The work of pastors and teachers is the **equipping of the** _____.

To equip means to make someone completely adequate and fully _____.

It is the idea of providing the _____ needed to do a job.

How do Elders equip the saints:

- They teach. They _____ believers by teaching sound _____ from God's Word.
- Pastors also equip by being an _____ to the flock.
- They walk with believers through difficult times and point them to _____. Applied theology.
- They also teach them to feed _____.

The purpose of equipping is that the saints do the work of _____.

It is not primarily the elders who do _____ the ministry, but the whole church.

_____ church is not the same thing as serving in the body.

If our settled pattern is only to attend and _____, we have misunderstood Christ's design for His body.

Every Christian must play his or her part as the body is _____ up.

Verse 16 _____ and fills out what Paul teaches in verse 12. There are 2 elements:

- Christ is the One who causes the _____ of the body.
He is the Head who holds everything together and supplies _____ to the body.
- When every believer exercises their gift, the body grows in _____.

2) A Mature Body – Growing Up into Christ (vs13,15)

Words: doctrines, full, goal, Holy Spirit, ignorance, knowledge, love, maturity, prayer, process, relationship, transformed, truth, unity, walk

The work of elders is designed to produce three results in the church:

- Paul first speaks about the _____ of the faith.

'The faith' refers to the core _____ once delivered to the saints.

Disunity often comes from doctrinal _____ and spiritual immaturity.

We cannot serve properly together unless we believe the same truths and pursue the same _____.

- Paul also speaks of the _____ of Christ.

This is a deep knowledge through _____ with Christ rather than mere information about Him.

It grows through _____ and faithful study of God's Word.

Elders must preach the _____ counsel of God and teach believers how to dig for spiritual gold.

- The goal is spiritual _____.

Maturity means learning to _____ as Christ walked.

It is the process of being continually _____ into His likeness.

This transforming work is carried out by the _____.

Paul explains the _____ more in vs 15. We are to speak the _____ to one another.

Truth must always be spoken in _____ for the **building up** of the body. Accountability & Encouragement.