

- I. We are going to do a word study on the word 'equip' or 'equipping' in Ephesians 4:12. Use the following reading to help you do your Word Work.

Read the following definition of the verb form of the word for 'equip' -

καταρτίζω (*katartizō*) [simplified from BDAG]:

1. **to cause to be in a condition to function well, put in order, restore.**
 - a. *restore to a former condition, put to rights.* Used of nets (by cleaning, mending, folding together) Matt. 4:21; Mark 1:19. Figuratively, *restore someone in a spirit of gentleness, i.e. in a gentle manner* Gal. 6:1. Used as a passive, *mend your ways* 2 Cor. 13:11.
 - b. *put into proper condition* (of a trainer who adjusts parts of the body), *adjust, complete, make something complete. to fix up any deficiencies in your faith or to complete what is lacking in your faith* 1 Thess. 3:10. *make someone complete: make you complete in every good thing* Heb. 13:21. *adjusted/made complete in the same mind and the same conviction* 1 Cor 1:10. Eph. 2:2. 1 Pt 5:10. *(fully) trained, practiced: when fully trained, the pupil will be like the teacher.* Lk 6:40.
2. **to prepare for a purpose, prepare, make, create, outfit.**
 - a. active and passive, of God. *the universe was created/prepared by the Word of God*, Heb. 11:3. *made, created for something: vessels of wrath, designed for destruction* Rom. 9:22.
 - b. middle- *prepare something for someone (a body)* Heb. 10:5. Used with reflexive meaning: for oneself "you prepared praise for yourself" Matt. 21:16.

Read the following verses in the ESV where this root is used (in bold) and note how this helps you understand what the word 'equip' means in Ephesians 4:12 -

Matthew 4:21

*And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, **mending** their nets, and he called them.*

Matthew 21:16

*...and they said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read, "'Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies you have **prepared** praise?"'"*

Mark 1:19

*And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat **mending** the nets.*

Luke 6:40

*A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully **trained** will be like his teacher.*

Romans 9:22

*What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath **prepared** for destruction...*

1 Corinthians 1:10

*I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be **united** in the same mind and the same judgment.*

2 Corinthians 13:9, 11

*For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. Your **restoration** is what we pray for.*

*Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for **restoration**, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.*

Galatians 6:1

*Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should **restore** him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.*

Ephesians 4:12

*...to **equip** the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ...*

1 Thessalonians 3:10

*...as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and **supply** what is lacking in your faith?*

Hebrews 10:5

*Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you **prepared** for me..."*

Hebrews 11:3

*By faith we understand that the universe was **created** by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.*



Hebrews 13:21

*...**equip** you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

1 Peter 5:10

*And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself **restore**, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.*

II. Reflection questions:

1. In 1-2 words, what does the 'whom' in 4:16 refer to?
2. In one short sentence explain the connection between 4:11 and 4:12.
3. In one short sentence, how does 4:13 explain 4:12?
4. In one short sentence what is the connection between 4:14 and 4:11-13?
5. In 1-2 sentences, how did your study of the word 'equip' inform what the word means in 4:12?