

# Growth Group Guide

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## Topic: Lead Like This – Ephesians 4

### Opening Question:

When have you experienced true unity in a group or team? What made that experience so powerful?

### Key Scripture:

- Ephesians 4:1–3 (CSB): Therefore I, the prisoner in the Lord, urge you to walk worthy of the calling you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

- Ephesians 4:11–13 (CSB): And he himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ, until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ's fullness.

- Ephesians 4:15–16 (CSB): But speaking the truth in love, let us grow in every way into him who is the head—Christ. From him the whole body, fitted and knit together by every supporting ligament, promotes the growth of the body for building itself up in love by the proper working of each individual part.

- Colossians 3:12–14 (CSB): Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and dearly loved, put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another if anyone has a grievance against another. Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you are also to forgive. Above all, put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

- John 13:34–35 (CSB): I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

### Main Points:

- I. Unity is not automatic—it requires intentional effort (Eph 4:1–3).
- II. Leadership is a gift from Christ to equip the church (Eph 4:11–12).
- III. Every believer has a role in building up the body (Eph 4:16).
- IV. Maturity is measured by Christlikeness, not comparison (Eph 4:13, 15).
- V. Love is the foundation that holds unity together (Col 3:14; John 13:35).

### Key Takeaways:

1. Unity in the church is Spirit-given but must be actively maintained.
2. God gives leaders not to do all the ministry, but to equip others to serve.
3. Every believer contributes to the health and growth of the body of Christ.
4. True maturity is becoming more like Jesus in love, truth, and service.
5. Love is the visible mark of Christ's people and the glue of unity.

### Discussion Questions:

1. Scripture Understanding Question:

Read Ephesians 4:1–3. What does it look like to make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit?

2. Group Reflection Question:

How does knowing that leaders are given to equip the saints change the way you view leadership in the church?

3. Personal Application Question:

What role do you see yourself playing in helping the body of Christ grow?

4. Practical Implementation Question:

What is one practical way you can practice 'speaking the truth in love' this week?

5. Challenge/Growth Question:

What step can you take to grow into greater maturity in Christ and help others do the same?

### Next Steps:

**\*\*This week, join us in prayer:\*\***

Pray for unity in our church and for God to show you how to use your gifts to build up others in love. Ask Him to help you grow in maturity and Christlikeness.

Individual: Identify one way you can use your gifts to serve others in the church this week.

Accountability: Share with a group member what role you believe God has given you in the body of Christ and ask them to encourage you in it.

Scripture: Memorize Ephesians 4:2–3 (CSB): 'with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.'

LIVE SENT: Look for an opportunity to show Christlike love in your community this week so others may see the love of Jesus in action.