

Discovering and Developing Leaders is the Key to Growth

Ephesians 4:11-16

This passage sets the individual “each one” over against the “all” in regard to unity in the Body of Christ. Unity is not uniformity and is perfectly consistent with diversity of gifts. God’s gracious relation to “all” is also a personal relation to “each one.”

Key phrase, “to each one of us **grace** was given...”

Grace is a _____ definition of the gospel.

Nature of grace is _____ not _____.

Grace is _____, _____, and _____.

Grace is God’s _____-motivated, _____-generated, and _____ act of giving.

Grace _____ us and _____ us.

I. CHURCH’S _____ - (v. 11)

A. _____ is the church’s Head and Chief Cornerstone

B. _____ and _____ -**foundation** (Eph 2:20)

C. _____ -men who proclaim the **good news**. He is to preach/proclaim and explain the good news of salvation to those who have yet to believe.

D. _____ -those along with the evangelist are in place today for the **advancement** of the kingdom.

Pastor emphasizes the care, protection, and leadership of the man of God **for the flock**.

Teacher has to do with the **primary function** of pastors.

Words that are used to identify the pastors.

Pastor: (poimen) **Shepherd**

Bishop: (episkopos) **Overseer**

Elder: (presbuteros) denotes an **Older Person**

3 words – same office

Elder emphasizes _____ the person is

Bishop speaks of _____ he does

Pastor deals with his _____ and _____

This all pictures a shepherd with a caring heart.

As an Elder, I am to set the **example** in spiritual maturity.

As a Bishop, I am to **guide** you and the church into the will of God.

As a Pastor, I am to **feed** you the Word of God.

The Pastor/Teacher: God's Gift to His Church

"Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct." (Hebrews 13:7)

"Remember" speaks of their _____ on you

"...who rule over you" speaks of their _____ over you

"...who have spoken the word of God to you" speaks of their _____ for you

"...whose faith follow" speaks of their _____ by you

"...considering the outcome of their conduct" speaks of their _____ to you

II. THE LEADER'S _____ (v. 12a)

"Equip"- refers to that which is fit; made complete; restored to original condition.

Equipping results in unity

4 Tools Used for Equipping

1. _____

*"As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby."
(1 Peter 2:2)*

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

2. _____

"Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. For I bear him witness that he has a great zeal for you, and those who are in Laodicea, and those in Hierapolis." (Colossians 4:12-13)

3. _____

"My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing." (James 1:2-4)

4. _____

"But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you." (1 Peter 5:10)

Paul **magnified** equipping at the church of Colosse.
"Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus." (Colossians 1:28)

"Equip" is a word used for mending the nets, bringing together opposing factions, furnishing a house, disciplining an offender.

The basic idea of the word "equip" is that of putting a thing into a condition in which it ought to be: **Usefulness.**

III. THE _____ RESPONSIBILITY (v. 12b)

A. _____ (v. 12b)

"...for the work of the ministry"

B. _____ (v. 12c)

"...for the edifying of the body of Christ"

C. _____ (v. 13a)

"...come to the unity of the faith"

D. _____ (v. 13b)

"...and of the knowledge of the Son of God"

E. _____ (v. 13c)

"...unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ"

These Lead to Growth

“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.” (2 Corinthians 3:18)

1. _____ (v. 14)

A. _____

B. _____

“...by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting.”

2. _____ (v. 15)

“But speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things to Him who is the head- Christ”

F. _____ (v. 16)

“If we want to be considered members of Christ, let no man be anything for himself, but let us all be whatever we are for the benefit of each other.”
(John Calvin)