

Equipping the Saints for Service

Ephesians 4:11-16, Romans 12:1-8

I. Introduction

II. Christ has given a variety of gifts to the church. v. 11

- A. There is a diversity of gifts that Jesus gave to His church. (1 Cor. 12:8-10, 28-30, Rom. 12:6-8, 1 Peter 4:11)**

III. Pastors and teachers are given for the purpose of equipping the saints. v. 12

- A. Every member serving is God's method of spiritual growth. v. 12 a-b (2 Tim. 3:17, 1 Tim. 4:12, John 15:5)**
- B. The purpose is for the edification of the body of Christ. v. 12c (1 Cor. 12:7; 2 Tim. 4:2-3; Acts 20:20, 32; 1 Tim. 4:11-13)**

IV. Real church growth is the maturing of the saints. v. 13

- A. Unity of faith and true knowledge of Christ. (Rom 7:14, 2 Pet. 2:12)**

V. Maturity is shown by living and speaking the truth in love. vv. 14-16

- A. You need a doctrinal foundation or you will be tossed about like waves. (Heb. 5:11-14, 2 Cor. 11:3)**
- B. You must live by the truth. v. 15 (Heb. 10:24)**
- C. The body is fitted and held together by God. v. 16 (Eph. 2:21, Col. 2:19)**

VI. Conclusion / Application