

Living as God's Treasured Possession Part II

Ephesians 4:1-16

The Manner

The Method

The Motive

Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,

Humility

Gentleness

Patience

Love

Peace

The Method

Christ's gift to individuals

Christ's gift to the church

Our gift to each other

Christ's gift to individuals

Ephesians 4:7 But **grace** was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Grace (charis): favor

Luke 2:14 (NIV) "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his **favor** rests."

Ephesians 4:7 But **grace** was given to **each one of us** according to the measure of **Christ's gift**.

John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,

Luke 24:49 And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Ephesians 4:7 But grace was given to each one of us according to **the measure of Christ's gift.**

1 Corinthians 12:4–6 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.

Romans 12:4–6 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith;

Ephesians 4:8 Therefore it says, “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.”

Ephesians 4:9–10 (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.)

Christ's Gifts to the Church

Ephesians 4:11 And he gave the **apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,**

Apostles (apostolous): messenger, ambassador, envoy

The apostles were a limited group of men for a limited period of time.

Prophets (prophētēs): one who proclaims inspired utterances on behalf of God.

Evangelists (euangelistēs): one who announces the gospel

Shepherds (poimēn): herdsman, one who cares for the flock

Jeremiah 3:15 “ ‘And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Acts 20:28 Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.

Teachers (didaskalos): teacher, instructor

Ephesians 4:12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

Equip (katartismos): to make adequate, to furnish completely, to cause to be fully qualified

Ephesians 4:12 to equip the **saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,**

Ephesians 4:13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

Ephesians 4:14 so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

Our Gift to Each Other

Ephesians 4:15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

Ephesians 1:18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance **in the saints,**

Ephesians 3:14–19 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶that according to the riches of his glory **he may grant you** to be strengthened with power through his Spirit **in your inner being,** ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell **in your hearts** through faith—**that you,** being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend **with all the saints** what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, **that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.**

Ephesians 4:16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Gifts are for use in serving others. The laity serve the church and the world. The clergy serve the laity, particularly in helping them to develop and use their gifts.

James Montgomery Boice, [*Ephesians: An Expositional Commentary*](#) (Grand Rapids, MI: Ministry Resources Library, 1988), 135.