



# ***Ephesians***

*Sermon 6*

*Ephesians 4:7-12*

**Sermon Study Guide Questions**

**October 20, 2019**

## **Review:**

Last week, we learned the importance of “Growing up in Order to Grow.” The idea is that as people individually grow and mature, so does the church

Two weeks ago, we left off in Ephesians 4:8, where Paul introduced us to the fact that Christ has given spiritual gifts to each of us. Learning about how we have been gifted and putting those gifts to use will help us to mature and grow as a church.

## **Ephesians 4:7-8.**

When Jesus ascended back to the Father in heaven, He led a host of captives, meaning He set people free. (those who were believers but had already died).

- He gave gifts to men and women. What are spiritual gifts? Read 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 to gain more insight into Spirit gifts.
  
- What are Spiritual gifts used for? What is the importance of you using your gift?

- Do you think that our church needs every member to exercise his or her spiritual gifts? What do you think might happen if some members choose to ignore their gifts and not use them in the church?
- What spiritual gifts do you think you might have? How do they fulfill the purposes described in verses 11-13?
- **Note:**  
There is a difference between “natural abilities” and “spiritual gifts.”
  - Natural abilities – we are born with them
  - Spiritual gifts – are given to us when we come to faith in Christ – they are distributed by the Holy Spirit
- **What are the positions found in the Church?**
- What is an **Apostle**? Acts 1:20-22, 1 Corinthians 9:1

- A **Prophet?** Acts 11:27-28, 1 Corinthians 14:1-5
- An **Evangelist?** Mark 16:15
- A **Shepherd/Pastor?** 1 Peter 5:1-4, 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13
- A **Teacher?**

**Note:**

Though these positions often involve a calling, an anointing, and are often full-time vocational pastors/ministers, many people who are not pastors/ministers can be gifted in these areas as well.

There are some of us who are gifted in some of these areas in our church who are not currently serving the body of Christ. We would like to **identify** you and help you to **use** your gifts.

## Read Ephesians 4:12

- What are these gifted leaders called to do?
- The Greek word for “equip” found in verse 12 is the same term you would use to equip an army. How does this change the way you look at this term? (Read Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:8)
- Let’s look at some of the other places in scripture where gifts are mentioned or listed.
  - Romans 12 gives us what have been called “The Motivational Gifts.”
    - 1. Prophecy** – the eyes of the body  
Gifted with spiritual insight, clear and direct in speaking what they think, black and white about issues. Sometimes can lack tact and can offend people.
    - 2. Serving** – the hands of the body

Love to meet physical needs, always ready and willing to help. Get over-committed because they have a hard time saying “no”. Can be offended if not appreciated.

### **3. Teaching – the mind of the body**

Research, instruct, communicate information, love to validate truth. Can give too much information, can struggle to be practical.

### **4. Exhortation – the mouth of the body**

Care for the spiritual needs in the body, build people up, encourage. Can come across as having all the answers; talk a lot; get offended when their counsel is not taken.

### **5. Contributing/Giving – the arms of the body**

Gifted to produce and share resources, motivated to make and give money. Can give away too much, can use money to control, are offended by debt or lack of a financial plan.

### **6. Leading – the shoulders of the body**

See the big picture and give direction to others to get things done. Evaluate problems and make plans to solve them. Can subconsciously dominate others; don't take input well; can be upset when questioned.

### **7. Acts of Mercy – the heart of the body**

Sensitive to the hurts of others, full of love, compassion, and mercy. Focused on the emotional needs of others, non-judgmental.

- What did you learn about the “motivational gifts” and their purpose for you and the church body?

**Outward Manifestations** list comes from 1 Corinthians 12:4-11.

1. Words of Wisdom
2. Words of Knowledge
3. Faith
4. Gifts of Healing
5. Working of Miracles
6. Prophecy
7. Distinguishing between spirits
8. Various types of tongues
9. Interpretation of tongues

What spiritual gifts do you think you might have? How do they fulfill the purposes described in verses 11-13?

Why is it correct to say that maturity is the goal of all ministry?

**Closing:**

**-A growing church will be filled with growing people**

Growing people are certainly people who know about and employ their gifts. Are you ready to use what God has given you?

Crossroads Arlington

*Sermon Study Guide*

# ***Ephesians***

*For information or questions, contact Gene-o Parenica*

*[gene-o@crossroadsarl.org](mailto:gene-o@crossroadsarl.org) 817-501-0212*