

Study Guide
Equip | Part 3
Ephesians 4:14-16

Big Idea: Truth leads to Growth.

I. Immature (v.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."

What are the differences between children and adults?

According to verse 14, discuss what spiritual immaturity looks like in our day.

II. Growing Up (v.15)

"Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ."

A. Truth for the World

What are some typical "lies" that people believe? What would it mean to "*speak the truth in love*" to a lost person? Are you ok with some tension in that? How can we lovingly help people be prepared for eternity?

B. Truth for the Body

1. Describe a conflict you had with another believer. How did you handle it? Do you tend to be passive or aggressive or passive/aggressive?

2. Assertive Christians.....are free to tell the truth....are free to do God's will, ...are motivated by love (*Kenneth Hauck*).

Discuss how Jesus was compassionate and assertive in his actions with people? How can we invite others into solution-oriented discussions?

III. Maturity (v.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."

Discuss the imagery of a fully functioning joint and how every part is critical? How does this apply to the Body of Christ? How can you see the Body of Christ "*building itself up in love*" in 2020?

Application

Take a few minutes to pray your Community Group to be a place of transformation and growth. Ask God for insight into how these verses apply to our lives.

Message Slides

Equip: Fullness

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1. God equips the Body through spiritual gifts.
2. Equipped for: Work of ministry & Building up the Body
3. Equipped unto: Unity, Maturity & Fullness

>on mouse click<

4. Equipped by: Truth that leads to growth

Big Idea: Truth leads to Growth

I. Immature (v.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."

>each on mouse click with image shown<

1. Not dependable
2. Fickle
3. Vulnerable

Big Idea: Truth leads to Growth

II. Growing Up (v.15)

"Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ."

A. Truth for the World

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Lies we believe:

God can't be trusted...

The Bible is outdated...

If it feels right it can't be wrong...

Some things can't be forgiven...

Money is the key to happiness...

Pain should be avoided at all costs...

There are many ways to heaven...

B. Truth for the Body

Image Passive/Aggressive

Image Aggressive/Aggressive

Image Assertive/Assertive

Speaking the Truth in Love- How to be an Assertive Christian (Ken Hauck)

...are free to tell the truth.

...are free to do God's will.

...are motivated by love.

...believe they have options...

...are proactive...

...believe in the dignity of all people...

...stand up for themselves without excessive anxiety.

...are people of integrity.

...accept their own limitations and the limitations of others.

Image- Conflict Cycle

III. Maturity (v.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."

Image of torn ligament

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