

**Equip**  
**Study Guide Notes**  
**Ephesians 4:11-13**

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“And he gave some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some shepherds and teachers, “to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, “until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”

**Bottom Line: The Church is designed to build itself up in Christ.**

1. How does the church equip you *“for the work of the ministry”*? What is your ministry outside the church?
2. How does the church build you up (*“for the building up of the Body”*)? How do you build others up?
3. Fascinating! As I do the work of the ministry, I am being transformed. (v.13)
  - a. Unity- What does it mean for us to be united in our faith?
  - b. Maturity- How are you growing as you interact with the Body of Christ? How do our differences help us to become more mature?
  - c. Fullness- In what areas of your life do you feel like Jesus is distant or missing? How could God use the church to help you experience more of His presence?
4. Take a few minutes to discuss with each other an idea or a next step for you to develop your personal ministry and grow more into maturity and fullness in Christ.

## Equip

### **The Mission- making committed followers of Christ**

#### **Matthew 28:19-20**

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

#### **Ephesians 4:11-12**

<sup>11</sup>And he gave some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ...

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#### **Ephesians 4:13**

“...until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,...”

#### **A. Unity**

“until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God...”

#### **Ephesians 4:3**

“make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

#### **Ephesians 4:4-6**

“one Body..., Spirit..., hope..., Lord..., faith..., baptism..., God...”

#### **Biblical reasons to leave a church:**

1. Not preaching the Gospel. (Gal. 1:7-9)
2. Not seeing God’s word as the final authority. (2 Tim. 3:16)
3. Denying the deity of Christ. (1 John 4:2-3)
4. Not having qualified church leadership. (1 Tim. 3:2-7)
5. Not addressing sin in the church. (Matt. 18:15-18)

#### **Other Differences**

#### **1 Cor. 11:19**

“...for there must be factions among you in order that those who are genuine among you may be recognized.”

#### **Image- Church history tree**

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#### **B. Maturity**

#### **Ephesians 4:13**

“...until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...”

### 1. Doctrine (Head)

#### Ephesians 4:14

“No longer tossed and turned by every wind of doctrine...”

### 2. Love (Heart)

#### 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 4:16b “

...[who] makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”

**Bottom Line: The Church is designed to build itself up in Christ.**

### 3. Fullness

...<sup>13</sup>until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

Eph. 1:22b-23- the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Image- Mosaic of Jesus

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