

Living in Community (Ephesians 4:1-16)

Basic Training – Part 12

Life Church St. Louis – November 29, 2015

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

1 Corinthians 12:12 (NIV) The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.

1. Keep the _____ of the Spirit

Ephesians 4:1 (NIV) As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

1A. Watch your _____ attitudes

Ephesians 4:2 (NIV) Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

1B. Focus on our common _____

Ephesians 4:3 (NIV) Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:4-6 (NIV) There is one body and one Spirit-- just as you were called to one hope when you were called-- one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

2. Recognize the _____ within unity

2A. Christ has distributed spiritual _____

Ephesians 4:7-8 (NIV) But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men."

2B. Christ has given gifted _____

Ephesians 4:11 (NIV) It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,

3. _____ for our common goal

Ephesians 4:12 (NIV) to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

3A. Become _____ in Christ

Ephesians 4:13 (NIV) until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

3B. Understand the _____ of God's Word

Ephesians 4:14 (NIV) Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming.

3C. _____ up the body of Christ in love

Ephesians 4:15-16 (NIV) Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Living in Community (Ephesians 4:1-16) Study Guide

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Intro. What would you say to someone who claimed to be a believer but saw no point in being part of a church family?

According to 1 Corinthians 12:12, who makes up the body of Christ on earth?

Based on the body analogy of the church, why do we need each other in the church community?

1A. How can you live a life worthy of your calling (Ephesians 4:1)?

1B. How would the individual attitudes described in Ephesians 4:2 help believers be in unity in the church community?

1C. Why do you think that God's Word urges believers to "make every effort" to keep the unity of the Spirit (Ephesians 4:3)?

1D. What are the common beliefs that we must focus on to keep the unity of the Spirit (Ephesians 4:4-6)?

1E. Why is it important to regularly attend Sunday worship services (Hebrews 10:25)?

2A. In what ways is there diversity within the unity of the church community?

2B. What gifts did Christ make available at Pentecost to those who seek them (Ephesians 4:7-8, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11)?

2C. Why did Christ establish five different kinds of leaders in the church (Ephesians 4:11)?

2D. How are small groups one of the best places for believers to discover and grow in the use of their gifts (1 Corinthians 14:26)?

2E. How would you encourage a believer who didn't see the need for small groups to get involved in a small group?

3A. What is the task of the five types of leaders in the church (Ephesians 4:12)?

3B. What should be the goal of every believer for themselves and for their church community (Ephesians 4:13)?

3C. What are the characteristics of immature or infant believers (Ephesians 4:14)?

3D. Explain in your own words, God's vision for the church community (Ephesians 4:15-16)?

3E. Why is it important for every believer to be involved in serving in their church community?

3F. How could you encourage another believer to get involved in ministry?