

## Equipped To Serve Ephesians 4:11-16

### See The Whole

God equipped the Church to do its work

Talked about how/who of that equipping

Last month who was equipped

Step back to see the big picture

Consider point of this equipping - THE PURPOSE of The Plan!

### Honor Our Calling

Remember these verses do not stand alone, they are surrounded by context

Beginning of chapter - **Ephesians 4:1-8**

Unity - work together for common cause

Comes through attitudes in **verse 2-3**

Humility - understanding our own smallness

Gentleness - careful & kind in response

Patience - restraint when wronged

Forbearance - continue even when hard

Love - learned, overlooking

Encompasses and enhances these qualities - **1Corinthians 13:4-8**

Peace - seeking tranquility among our congregation

Done by looking for best in all situations, overlooking difficulties that do not interfere with mission

To become one body in Christ!

### Equipped To Be One!

**Ephesians 4:13-14**

To help each other grow together

**Note** - 'ministry' not about helping with physical needs, not 'limited benevolence'

KJV "for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:"

Not a 'three points' of purpose, but one overall purpose of teaching so saints can teach others

Faith - our trust in God's promises

Knowledge - our understanding of God's plan

Maturity - Our growth

Christ-like - Our goal

To overcome

False doctrine, Man's wisdom, Satan's lies

### Teaching Truth To Grow

**Ephesians 4:15-16**

Such teaching causes change - **Ephesians 4:17-32**

Put off - put on - **Colossians 3**

Leave dark ways of the past - Selfish, sensual, greedy

Renew minds in righteousness - **Romans 12:1-2**

Falsehood to Truth; Anger without sin; Stealing to Sharing; Corrupt talk to edification for grace

Please Deity; Evil against another to kindness, tenderness & forgiveness

### Imitate God!

**Ephesians 5:1-2**