

MESSAGE NOTES

September 27, 2015

IN CHRIST: Maturing Together
Ephesians 4:7-16
Pastor Jeff Nelsen

- After _____, what did the 1st believers do _____? Acts 2:41-47

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of Him who is the head, that is, Christ. Ephesians 4:15

UNDERSTANDING WHAT WE'RE CALLED TO BE

- When we trust Christ, God _____ us to Christ's _____. Rom 12:5
- He _____ us together as _____ body, with _____ parts. 1 Cor 12:12-13
- Christ descended/ascended to give each of us _____. Eph 4:7-10
- His body only works _____ when _____ of us _____ His gifts.
- Daily _____ ourselves to Christ & His _____ we _____.

LIVING OUT WHAT WE'RE CALLED TO BE

- Loving Christ _____ loving His _____, the _____. Acts 20:28; Eph 5:25
- Growing in _____ faith & _____ God's Son better. Eph 1:17; 4:13
- Learning to build one another _____ in _____ & _____. Eph 4:14-16
- Discovering and gratefully _____ with His _____. Eph 4:11-12

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.
Ephesians 4:16

MATURING TOGETHER

- Am I _____ to the _____ Christ has _____ me to?

Spiritual Gifts

(Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12 & 14; Ephesians 4; 1 Peter 4)

- 1) **Mercy.** The God-given ability to minister cheerfully and appropriately to people who are suffering through kind acts of compassion.
 - 2) **Hospitality.** The God-given ability to make others, especially strangers, feel warmly welcomed and accepted.
 - 3) **Intercession.** The God-given ability to persistently pray on behalf of others, often accompanied with great results.
 - 4) **Creative Arts.** The God-given ability to build up the church through music, drama, graphic arts, craftwork, writing, painting and building.
 - 5) **Helps.** The God-given ability to assist others in their ministries by supporting them in practical and often behind-the-scenes ways.
 - 6) **Giving.** The God-given ability to contribute money and material resources to God's work with cheerfulness and liberality.
 - 7) **Encouragement.** The God-given ability to offer strength, reassurance and affirmation to those who are discouraged or wavering.
 - 8) **Evangelism.** The God-given ability to effectively communicate the message of Christ to unbelievers, who then often respond.
 - 9) **Administration.** The God-given ability to organize and guide human activities in such a way that Christ's plans are effectively carried out.
 - 10) **Leadership.** The God-given ability to attract, lead, motivate & equip people to accomplish the work of the ministry.
 - 11) **Teaching.** The God-given ability to understand and clearly apply the Word of God to the everyday lives of listeners and students.
 - 12) **Shepherding.** The God-given ability to care for the spiritual needs of a small group of believers and nurture them in their spiritual growth.
 - 13) **Prophecy.** The God-given ability to proclaim God's truth in a timely and challenging way, often calling God's people to a clear decision.
 - 14) **Missions.** The God-given ability to adapt to a different culture in order to reach unbelievers and build up believers from that culture.
 - 15) **Discernment.** The God-given ability to distinguish between the spirit of truth & the spirit of error, in a way that builds up the body of Christ.
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| 16) Wisdom | 18) Healing | 20) Tongues |
| 17) Knowledge | 19) Miracles | 21) Faith |

Each one of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10)