

Ephesians 4:11-16

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

4:11 Apostles and prophets have passed from the scene, but the foundation they laid is that on which the church has been built. They had 3 basic foundational responsibilities:

- a) to lay the foundation of the church Eph. 2:20
- b) to receive & declare the revelation of God's Word Acts 11:28
- c) to give confirmation of the Word through "signs and wonders" 2 Cor 12:12

4:11 The work of the evangelist is to preach and to explain the good news of salvation for the advancement of the Kingdom.

4:11 Pastors-teachers are defined by the care, protection, and leadership they show for the flock and by their ministry of teaching.

4:12 God has given basic tools for equipping the saints: His Word and Prayer.

4:12 Proper equipping by the evangelists and pastor-teachers leading to proper service by the congregation results inevitably in the building up of the body of Christ.

4:12 Finding our place to serve is not really that difficult-
The First thing we must know is what God has commanded us to do:

- We are to tend to the orphans and the widows (James 1:27)
- We are to "contribute to the needs of the saints"
- We are to "practice hospitality" (Romans 12:13)
- We are to "encourage the fainthearted, and help the weak" (1 Thes 5:14)
- We are to "support the work of the church"

4:13 When believers are properly taught, when they faithfully do the work of service, when the body is built up in spiritual maturity, unity of the faith is the evident result.

4:14 Neither the tricks nor the deceitful scheming of Satan will mislead the spiritually equipped.

GOD holds a high bar for the church to reach... but, He would NOT hold this standard if He did not believe we could reach it. That is only possible through Him and the equipping He provides.
His goal; that every member of HIS body/church will grow to maturity

A maturing believer... will be growing in Christ-likeness,
...never content with how far we've grown

GREEK WORDS USED TODAY

Euangelistēs—those who proclaim good news

Katartismos—(equipping); - that which is fit or restored to its original condition [made complete]

Katantaō (attain/reach) - used of travelers arriving at their destinations

Kubia (koo-bi'-ah)—trickery; [cube] used of gambling, dice-playing

Panourgia (pan-oorg-ee'-ah)—craftiness; clever manipulation; inaccuracy made to look like truth

Methodeia (meth-od-i'-ah)—[method] :- wile, lie in wait

Alētheuō—speak, deal, or act truthfully