

Sermon Text Discussion Notes 11/10/2019

Ephesians 4:7-16 – “Christ-Gifted, Leader-Equipping, Member-Engaged Church Growth” by Drew Hunter

Overview

This is the twelfth message in our series on the book of Ephesians. The book of Ephesians shows us how the gospel of Jesus is for all of life. This text shows us what the church should look like, and how to get there. It deals with the way God works unity through spiritual gifts of leadership in the church.

The text is outlined as follows:

- I) Their Source (v7-10)
- II) Their Character (v11)
- III) Their Purpose (v12-16)

The key to gospel growth is a church culture where everyone helps each other grow in Christ. The key is a culture where every member uses spiritual gifts to serve each other.

Understanding & Application

- 1) Verse 7 references how a spiritual gift or gifts are given to each one of us by Christ. Think about those in the body who are uniquely gifted in ways you are not. Try to find opportunities to recognize them this week and encourage them in either how they are using these gifts or how they might use them for the benefit of the church body.
- 2) Read verses 12-16 on the purpose of these gifts. Why do you think God made us interdependent in accomplishing these purposes?
- 3) Verse 14 emphasizes the importance of knowing Christ (doctrine) to be a mature Christian and better serve him. Are there additional steps you could take in your study of the Word to help you discern how to follow the real Jesus?
- 4) In reference to verse 15, we often over-emphasize either truth or love to the detriment of the other. Which of these do you tend to focus on? How might the Lord be challenging you to grow in the other to better reflect him?
- 5) Drew encouraged us to take practical steps to use our gifts; to look for needs and help. Take a few moments to consider how the Lord has uniquely gifted you. Pray for opportunities to use these special gifts to his glory.
- 6) At the conclusion of the sermon, we were encouraged to remember the whole point of these gifts-- Jesus. Ponder Jesus being the source and the perfect example of all of these gifts. Thank him for these gifts and consider your motivation to serve out of love for him.