

## God's Plan for Building Up the Church

**Text:** Ephesians 4:11-16

**Main Idea:** Jesus gave gifts to the Church to equip, mature & grow her up so that she can do His ministry in the world with His power.

1. **Progress:** Jesus gave gifts to the Church to grow & \_\_\_**mature**\_\_\_ the Church. (v. 11-12)

- The gifts were given so that the church can be \_\_\_**equipped**\_\_\_. (Heb 13:20-21, 2 Tim 3:16-17, Acts 6:4)
- The gifts were given so that the church can \_\_\_**serve**\_\_\_ in ministry.
- The gifts were given so that the church can be \_\_\_**built**\_\_\_ up. (Acts 20:32)

2. **Purpose:** Jesus desires for the Church to \_\_\_**grow**\_\_\_ up in every way into Christ. (v. 13-15a)

- **Unity in Doctrine:** God's desire is that the Church have unity in the body of \_\_\_**truth**\_\_\_ (doctrine), the Gospel, or "the Faith." (Jude 3)
- **Deep Understanding:** God's desire is that the Church have a deep & correct \_\_\_**understanding**\_\_\_ of the Son of God. (Phil 3:8-12)

- 1) Spiritual \_\_\_**maturity**\_\_\_: God's desire is that the Church would have a spiritual maturity that reflects Christ's complete maturity. (Rom 8:29)
- 2) Sound in \_\_\_**doctrine**\_\_\_: God's desire is that the Church be sound in doctrine so that they will not be deceived & carried away by false teaching.
- 3) Love & \_\_\_**truth**\_\_\_: God's desire is that the Church would have an authentic loving testimony.

3. **Power:** Jesus desires for the Church to get its authority, direction and power from \_\_\_**Christ**\_\_\_ Himself from which it grows up in love. (v. 16, Col 2:19)