

**The Priority of Intentional Discipleship**  
**Text: Ephesians 4: 11-16**  
**September 28, 2024**

**Big Idea: God calls us to maturity, so we must be intentional in discipleship.**

**Context is key!**

**Question #1 (Context)**

*Ask Yourself: What is going on in the text?*

- a) What is the setting and what is happening?
- b) Who are the main characters?
- c) Are there any words/phrases that are repeated?

**Question #2 (Context)**

*Ask Yourself: What does the text say about God and about me?*

- a) Is God saying or showing something about Himself? If so, what?
- b) Do the words in the text predict, prophesy or picture something about Jesus? If so, what?
- c) Is God saying or showing something about us? If so, what?
- d) How does the text point to my need for Jesus? How?

**Question #3 (Context)**

*Ask Yourself: What are the principles, commands or promises given?*

- a) What is the overall theme of the text?
- b) Does the passage include any promise from God? If so, what?

God calls us to maturity, so we must be intentional in discipleship to be...

**Point 1: Equipped for Ministry: The PATH to Maturity (vv. 11-12)**

*Question: God has equipped us with the tools for ministry. Are you building with them?*

*Sermon Notes...*

**Question #4**

*Ask Yourself: What is the application?*

What is one specific way I can grow in receiving God's equipping through His Word?

**Point 2: Unified by the Gospel: The POWER for Maturity (vv. 13-14)**

*Question: Unity is in Christ alone. Am I seeking Him, or trying my own way?*

*Sermon Notes...*

**Question #5**

- a) **Rd v. 13:** If we are growing in maturity, who do we increasingly look more like?
- b) Why is unity in our relationships and in what we believe about God's Word essential if we are to grow together to maturity in Jesus?
- c) **Rd v. 14:** What is the outcome if we are not growing in Christlike maturity in our faith with one another?

**Point 3: Built-Up in Love: The PROOF of Maturity (vv. 15-16)**

*Question: God has equipped us with gifts for ministry. Will you use them to see the body built up?*

*Sermon Notes...*

**Question #6**

- a) **Rd v. 15:** What does it mean to speak the truth in love to one another?
- b) Do you find this difficult to do with those around you? Why or why not?
- c) **Rd v. 16:** What next steps can you take to serve in the church and see it built up?

**Prayer Application**

Spend time as a group/in accountability in prayer...

- a) REVERENCE before God: Jesus, you are\_\_\_\_\_.
- b) HUMILITY before God: Confess & repent of areas that are hindering your maturity in Christ.
- c) THANKSGIVING to God: Jesus, thank You for how you are building Your church by\_\_\_\_\_.
- d) SUPPLICATION to God: Jesus, please build Your Church through\_\_\_\_\_.

*Memory Verse:*

*"Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,"-Ephesians 4:15*

