

First Love Priority: Maturity in Jesus
Text: Ephesians 4:11-16
September 27, 2025

Big Idea:

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?

Intentional discipleship means being...

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

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

Sermon Notes...

Question #3

- a) **Rd. vv. 11-12:** What has God given to the church to see it equipped for the work of ministry?
- b) How should knowing that God gave us the leaders we have, lead us to respond to them? Why?
- c) What are some ways that God has equipped you for ministry through the work of the leaders He has put over you?
- d) What is one way you could encourage and support your church leaders this week?

Intentional discipleship means being...

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

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

Sermon Notes...

Question #4

- a) **Rd vv. 13-14:** What are the ultimate goals of being equipped for the work of ministry?
- b) What does a life that is growing in gospel maturity look like?
- c) How does the gospel give us all we need to grow in maturity?
- d) What things are in your life right now that are hindering your growth in maturity in Christ (ie-shows you are watching, music, social media, people you hang around with, discipline of disobedience, etc)?

Question #5

- a) What are some lies the world tries to tell us about the gospel that can 'toss us' if we aren't discerning?
- b) How can we grow in discerning truth from lies and deceit (ie-false teaching, worldly messages, etc.)?

Intentional discipleship means being...

Point 3: _____ - _____ in Love: The _____ 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 vv. 15-16:** What does it mean to speak the truth in love? Is it just for correction?
- b) Do you find it hard to speak the truth in love at times? Why or why not?
- c) How should we speak the truth in love to one another (ie-get practical!)?

Prayer Application

Spend time as a group or in accountability praying out of **Ephesians 4:11-16...**

- a) ADORATION: Lord Jesus, You are the God of love and truth who _____ .
- b) CONFESSION: Lord Jesus, I repent of forsaking your truth by _____ .
- c) THANKSGIVING: Lord Jesus, I thank you for equipping me through _____ .
- d) SUPPLICATION: Lord Jesus, I ask for _____ .

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