

**Membership Sunday**

**Ephesians 4:11-16**

**“What Should Happen to You at Church?”**

**EPHESIANS 4:11-16**

## I. Who God Calls to Help Lead the Church (vs. 11)

- **Apostles** – one commissioned by God to testify of resurrected Christ; an eyewitness of resurrected Christ (I Cor 9:1) and chosen by God (Acts 9:15)
- **Prophets** – either predictive or a mouthpiece for God
- **Evangelists**
- **Pastors** – shepherds (Acts 20:28)
- **Teachers** – helping instruct, interpret and expound the Bible

## **The Offices of Ephesians 4**

*Am I not free?  
Am I not an apostle?  
Have I not seen Jesus our Lord?  
Are not you my workmanship in  
the Lord?*

**I Corinthians 9:1**

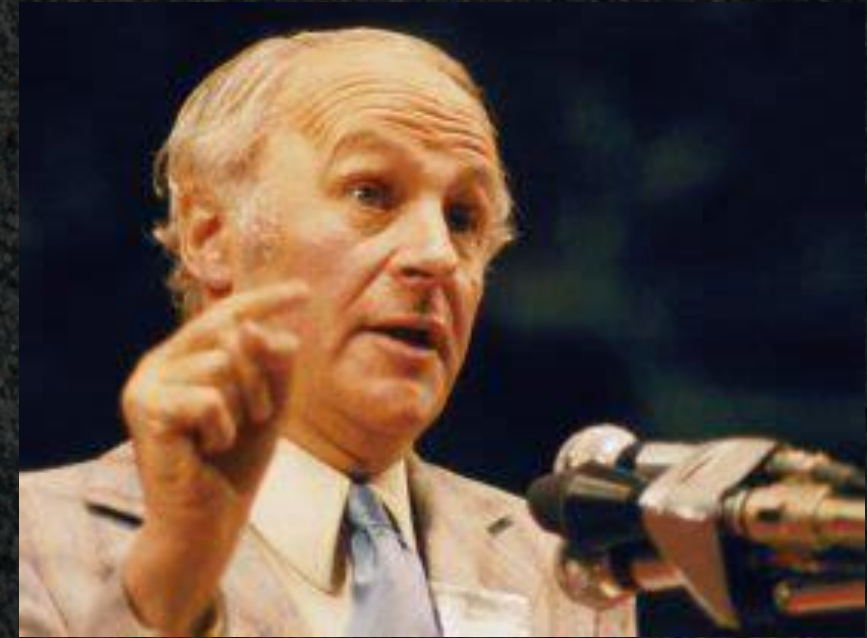
*But the Lord said to him,  
“Go, for he is a chosen instrument  
of mine to carry my name before  
the Gentiles and kings and the  
children of Israel.”*

**Acts 9:15**

*Pay careful attention to yourselves  
and to all the flock,  
in which the Holy Spirit has made  
you overseers,  
to care for the church of God,  
which he obtained with his  
own blood.*

**Acts 20:28**

“Nothing is more necessary for the building up of God’s church in every age than an ample supply of God-gifted teachers... It is teaching which builds up the church. It is teachers who are needed most.”



**John Stott**  
***The Message of Ephesians***



I. Who God Calls to Help Lead the Church (vs. 11)

II. What This Leadership Is to Do for the Church (vs. 12-13)

- Equipping (vs. 12a)

- Means “to repair, to mend, to prepare, to restore”
- Training for ministry

**The Word “Equip”**

“The N.T. concept of the pastor is not a person who jealousy guards all ministry in his own hands, and successfully squashes all lay initiatives, but of one who helps and encourages all God’s people to discover, develop and exercise their gifts...he actually multiplies ministries.”



**John Stott**  
***The Message of Ephesians***

1. By teaching the Word of God (II Tim 3:16-17)
2. By encouraging obedience (Jas 1:22)
3. By encouraging discipleship
4. By preparing others to witness (I Pet 3:15)
5. By recommending books
6. By setting an example (Tit 2:7)

**How Does Equipping Take Place?**

*But be doers of the word,  
and not hearers only,  
deceiving yourselves.*

**James 1:22**

*but in your hearts honor Christ the  
Lord as holy, always being  
prepared to make a defense to  
anyone who asks you for a reason  
for the hope that is in you;  
yet do it with gentleness  
and respect,*

**I Peter 3:15**

*Show yourself in all respects to be  
a model of good works,  
and in your teaching show  
integrity, dignity,*

**Titus 2:7**

I. Who God Calls to Help Lead the Church (vs. 11)

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- Equipping (vs. 12a)
- Building (vs. 12b)



*For we are God's fellow workers.  
You are God's field,  
God's building.*

**I Corinthians 3:9**

*So with yourselves,  
since you are eager for  
manifestations of the Spirit,  
strive to excel in building up  
the church.*

**I Corinthians 14:12**

*What then, brothers?  
When you come together,  
each one has a hymn, a lesson,  
a revelation, a tongue,  
or an interpretation.  
Let all things be done for  
building up.*

**I Corinthians 14:26**

*But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one.*

**I Corinthians 5:11**

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## II. What This Leadership Is to Do for the Church (vs. 12-13)

- Equipping (vs. 12a)
- Building (vs. 12b)
- Maintaining Unity (vs. 13a)

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## II. What This Leadership Is to Do for the Church (vs. 12-13)

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- Building (vs. 12b)
- Maintaining Unity (vs. 13a)
- Encouraging Maturity (vs. 13b)

*And we all, with unveiled face,  
beholding the glory of the Lord,  
are being transformed into the  
same image from one degree of  
glory to another. For this comes  
from the Lord who is the Spirit.*

**II Corinthians 3:18**

I. Who God Calls to Help Lead the Church (vs. 11)

II. What This Leadership Is to Do for the Church (vs. 12-13)

III. What Proof We Have That Leadership Is Doing Their Job (vs. 14-16)

- Spiritual Discernment (vs. 14)



*For the time is coming when  
people will not endure sound  
teaching, but having itching ears  
they will accumulate for  
themselves teachers to suit their  
own passions,*

**II Timothy 4:3**

*Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.*

**I John 4:1**

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- Spiritual Discernment (vs. 14)
- Truthing in Love (vs. 15)

*And she said to him,  
“How can you say, ‘I love you,’  
when your heart is not with me?  
You have mocked me these three  
times, and you have not told me  
where your great strength lies.”*

**Judges 16:15**

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III. What Proof We Have That Leadership Is Doing Their Job (vs. 14-16)

- Spiritual Discernment (vs. 14)
- Truthing in Love (vs. 15)
- Equipped for Service (vs. 16)