



Who is doing the work that most directly matters?



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Who is doing the work that most directly matters?

- How do we sometimes get it wrong?
 - If you are the coach, teacher, parent, manager...
 - If you are the athlete, student, child, worker...



Launched for Service

Ephesians 4:1-16

Brown/English: Page 1175
White/Spanish: Page 1492
Red/Chinese: Page 1897



Lord's Supper Sundays: Celebration of the Gospel

- First Sunday of each month (usually)
- Focus is on one part of the Gospel each time (2 cycles each year)
 1. **The Holy God:** all powerful creator of all that is
 2. **Sinful people:**
 - when you and I disobey what we know is right
 - when we ignore what God is saying
 - when we don't choose to put Him first
 3. **Our Saving God:** He wills (Father), enacts (Son), and applies (Spirit) our rescue from our sin and declared to be as good and righteous as the Son
 4. **Faith:** our humble agreement with, hope in, and submission to 1, 2, 3
 5. **Mission:** our "living into" what God has done
 - being God's children who live like He lives
 6. **Glory:** God welcoming us into His home in glory forever

The Letter to the Ephesian Church

- Letter to the church in Ephesus (modern Turkey)
- God's overall purpose
 - "to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ." *Ephesians 1:10*
- Implications for the church:
How do we fit into that purpose?

Ephesians 4

1-6:

7:

8-10:

11-13:

14-16:

Our Calling (vocation) - Ephesians 2:19-22

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also **members of his household**, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become **a holy temple in the Lord**. And in him you too are being **built together** to become **a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit**.

We are a holy temple in which God lives!

Ephesians 4

1-6: Since the church is called to be a dwelling place for the one God by His Spirit, let us eagerly pursue unity

7: In unity, Christ gives different gifts to different people

8-10: The Son of God became human, suffered and died, came to life again, and rose to glory

As victor, He rescued people and gave them gifts

11-13:

14-16:

Ephesians 4:11-12

So Christ himself gave
the apostles,
the prophets,
the evangelists,
the pastors
and teachers,

Those who reveal, declare, teach,
and “administer” the Gospel
to the church

to equip
his people

Form all in the church for God’s purpose

for works of service,
so that the body of Christ
may be built up

The “ministry” of the church
Jesus builds His church
by the works of all His people

Ephesians 4

- 1-6: Since the church is called to be a dwelling place for the one God by His Spirit, let us eagerly pursue unity
- 7: In unity, Christ gives different gifts to different people
- 8-10: The Son of God became human, suffered and died, came to life again, and rose to glory
As victor, He rescued people and gave them gifts
- 11-13: He gave church-equipping gifts to some so that all His people would do the work of the ministry
- 14-16: Result: the church matures into God's purpose: a dwelling place for God by His Spirit as all work

The Big Idea

To turn His people into God's place to live
by His Spirit (His temple),
Christ provides some people in the church
to equip and empower everyone in the church
to use their unique gifts
to do the work of the ministry of God's Kingdom



The measure of the work
of the mentor
is the measure of the work
of the mentee



Application

- What everyone does is the real work of making us a dwelling place for God
 - “Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.”

Ephesians 4:2-3

Application

- What everyone does is the real work of making us a dwelling place for God
- Eagerly put into practice what you learn
 - With church people
 - With the rest of the people in your life

Application

- What everyone does is the real work of making us a dwelling place for God
- Eagerly put into practice what you learn
- Let's empower people for ministry
 - Structures of the church should support and launch all people into active service/leadership
 - “Leaders” need to equip **AND** get out of the way

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by His Spirit (His temple),

Christ provides some people in the church
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to use their unique gifts

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- **WHAT GIFTS HAS CHRIST GIVEN TO YOU?**
- **HOW ARE YOU (AND EVEN MORE) EAGERLY USING THOSE GIFTS TO DO THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY OF GOD?**