



# Talk it Over

PASTOR LYLE EPHESIANS - THE CHURCH – 11/02/25

## KEY SCRIPTURE

### **Ephesians 4:11–16 (NLT)**

11 Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers.

12 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.

13 This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

14 Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth.

15 Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

16 *He makes the whole body fit together perfectly.*

As each part does its own special work,  
*it helps the other parts grow,*  
so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

## START TALKING

This week's "Start Talking" is about how to creatively get a discussion started. Take a few moments and come up with five to ten discussion starters. Have someone in the group text them to Pastor Dave.

## START DISCUSSING

### **GOD'S GIFT TO THE CHURCH**

Read Ephesians 4:11-12

We want to focus on Pastors-Teachers. They are listed as gifts to the church. The word "Pastor" is literally the word "shepherd." The pastor is an under-shepherd answering to the Chief Shepherd.

**Discuss ways that the pastor of a church is like a shepherd.**

### **PASTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY**

The pastor's responsibility is to equip the saints.

The saints are to be equipped to do the work of building up the body of Christ. It is easy to think of the pastor as being the one who does the work of the ministry. Pastor Lyle made the point that we are all in ministry. Each of us is to be working/serving/ministering to build up the body of Christ.

**First, discuss the differences between the two responsibilities of "equipping" and "doing the work." How does the pastor equip?**

**How do the people "build up the body of Christ?"**

**Don't overlook the many ways that the "building up" is supported and made possible.**

"Building up" can take place any time and any place. **Discuss how this takes place during the week and off the church property.**

### **THE GOAL: WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE**

#### **Read verses 13-15**

The building up of the body of Christ continues until we reach the goal. The goal is ongoing until Christ returns.

**Discuss the following goals listed in these verses**

- Unity
- Maturity
- Measuring up to the Standard of Christ
- Stable in our theology or teaching
- Loving

### **THE BIG PICTURE**

#### **Read verse 16**

Verse 16 has been broken up into four clauses.

**Take time to discuss each clause and how they differ, relate to one another and progress to the final goal: "the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love."**