



Talk it Over

PASTOR DAVE – DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY – CHURCH I – 10/12-13/24

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

Pastor Dave spoke about the role of the local church in our journey as disciples of Jesus.

What do you think of when you think of “the church”? What are some of your favorite church experiences, as a child or even as an adult?

START DISCUSSING

Read Ephesians 4:11-16

WHAT DOES THE PASTOR DO?

This passage focuses on the growth process of the local church. It is not an exhaustive description of what a pastor does but describes how the pastor initiates the process.

According to Eph. 4:11-12, what is the responsibility of the pastor? What are ways that a pastor equips God's people for service?

Verse 12 says that God's people do the work of his ministry.

Often, we think of ministry as teaching and preaching, but what are other ways to serve? In what other ways can we contribute to the body?

The goal of this serving is that the body will be built up. Verses 13-15 describe the evidence that will be seen as the building up is accomplished.

Talk about what each evidence of “building up” looks like:

Unity - to such unity in our faith (v.13)

Knowledge - and knowledge of God's Son (v.13)

Maturity - that we will be mature in the Lord (v.13)

Christlike - measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ (v.13)

Not immature - no longer be immature like children.

Not tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching.

Not influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. (v.14)

We speak truth in love - Instead, we will speak the truth in love (v.15)

Again Christlike - growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. (vs. 15)

Discuss the features of the summary statement of verse 16

God's Work	--	Our Work
The Process	--	The Result

