Healthy Church – Diversity Ephesians 4:7-12

To each one of us grace has been given according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

Ephesians 4:7

A bored man is a dangerous man.

The lie of the adversary is that there are more exciting things to chase after than living on mission with Jesus.

I. Diversity

Unity is not uniformity

Romans 12:3,6-8 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

1 Peter 4:10

II. Authority

Therefore it says, "Ascending to the height, He captured captivity; He gave gifts to human beings."

And what does "He ascended" mean except that He also descended into the lower regions of the earth.

The one who descended is Himself also the one who ascended far above all the heavens so that He will fill all things.

Ephesians 4:8-10

Having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Colossians 2:15

He <u>captured</u> captivity

He <u>ascended</u> far above all

Let God arise, may His enemies be scattered; may His foes flee before Him.
As smoke is blown away by the wind,

may you blow them away;

as wax melts before the fire,

may the wicked perish before God.

Sing to God, sing praise to His name.

His name is the LORD.

A father to the fatherless;

a defender of widows,

is God in His holy dwelling.

Psalm 68:1,2,4,5

The chariots of God are tens of thousands

and thousands of thousands;

the Lord has come from Sinai into His sanctuary.

When you ascended on high,

you took many captives;

you received gifts from people,

even from the rebellious—

that you, Lord God, might dwell there.

Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior,

who daily bears our burdens.

Our God is a God who saves:

from the Sovereign Lord comes escape from death.

Psalm 68:17-20

III. Ministry

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, others to be prophets, others to be evangelists, and others to be pastors and teachers for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11,12