



Designed For This #2 - Roles

April 22-23, 2023

We have more to share. Text **CONNECT** to **888-644-4034**

Doug McCoy

A truth: **There is nothing wrong with you!**

Another truth: **But you may not understand yourself or others.**

Ephesians 4:11-13 (NIV '84) **11** It was he who **gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12** to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up **13** until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Ephesians is a unique epistle about "every spiritual blessing" God gives us in Jesus. This passage reveals one such blessing: the blessing of roles, of receiving a divine role for ministry and life.






I. Roles. Roles are not positions or talents but _____. They are the way God made you to see and do.

Jeremiah 1:4-5 (NIV) **4** The word of the Lord came to me, saying,
5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, **before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."**

II. Roles Are Given by Jesus to All His People. Jesus *gave some* of each role to the church. This means _____ in the church is made in one of these roles and every congregation is going to have a _____ of them.

1 Corinthians 12:11, 27-28 (NIV) **11** All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and **he distributes them to each one**, just as he determines...**27** Now you are the body of Christ, and **each one of you is a part** of it. **28** And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues.

III. There Are Five Roles. Each has a distinct concern and activity:

-  Apostle - concerned about expansion; _____ to take new land
-  Prophet - concerned about justice; _____ and speaks for God
-  Evangelist - concerned about conversion; _____ the good news
-  Pastor - concerned about wellbeing; _____ for the people
-  Teacher - concerned about truth; _____ the Word

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IV. Weaknesses, Immaturity, and Conflict. We need to be aware of some issues with these roles and the way they live.

● Each role is subject to weaknesses.



- Apostles - have great ideas but don't stick with them
- Prophets - are usually right but can be too aggressive
- Evangelists - lead people to belief but not to growth
- Pastors - provide affection but have difficulty correcting problems
- Teachers - understand the Bible but get bogged down in details

● People can be immature in their roles.

● Roles can conflict with each other in the church, at work, and at home.

V. The Roles in Cooperation. But there is beauty when these roles _____ together and _____ each other as God intended.

Ephesians 4:14-16 (NIV '84) **14** Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. **15** Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. **16** From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, **as each part does its work.**

It takes some work and growth, but through the cooperation of these roles we can have and become something wonderful.

Prayer: from Francis of Assisi:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, let me sow pardon;
where there is doubt, let me sow faith;
where there is despair, let me sow hope;
where there is darkness, let me sow light;
and where there is sadness, let me sow joy.

This Week's Bible Readings (Use the TCND App if you want to listen):

- Sat. Apr. 22, 1Kings 2-3 Sun. Apr. 23, 1Kings 4-6 Mon. Apr. 24, 1Kings 7
- Tue. Apr. 25, 1Kings 8-9 Wed. Apr. 26, 1Kings 10-11 Thur Apr 1Kings 12-13
- Fri. Apr. 28, 1Kings 14-15 Sat. Apr. 29, 1Kings 16-17 Sun. Apr. 30, 1Kings 18-19



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