



Welcome: *What is one thing others have said you are good at?*

Worship: Read Psalm 106 or [“Resurrender” – Hillsong Worship](#)

Word: Scripture References: Ephesians 4:7, Eph. 4: 11-13, 1 Corinthians 12:27-31, Romans 12:3-6, 1Cor.12:8-11, 1Cor.13: 8-11. *Also see full ‘Sermon Notes Guide’.*

1. What stood out to you the most in the message?
2. Pastor Bryan said it’s very easy to talk about the authority of God when we’re talking about the headship of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and the Word of God (the Apostles and Prophets)—no one argues with that in the Church. But now it gets harder, because we start talking about people who have spiritual offices, authorities, and spiritual gifts to dispense to the Body, which require our submission.
 - **Submission, trust and pride:** What did Pastor Bryan speak about around the issues of *pride* and *trust* in relationships where we are called to submit? Have you ever experienced issues around pride and/or trusting those who were given authority over you, or those who are under your authority? What did you do? What would you do differently? Share if you feel led.
 - Pastor Bryan stated regarding the Trinity that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit demonstrate their equality with ‘*deference*.’ Discuss what it means to submit (with deference) to those God has placed in authority in your life, out of reverence to Christ in them (Eph. 5:20). What happens when we do? And when we don’t? Share some examples in general, or in your life personally.
3. **Spiritual Offices**—Read *Ephesians 4:11-13*. Pastor Bryan said **unity** comes through a theocracy, not democracy—when we submit our differing views to God and the authority of His Word.
 - Why do you think the Church was given this leadership structure of the Spiritual Offices in order to bring us to unity?
 - How do you see it operating (or not operating) in the Church today to equip the church and build up the Body of Christ?



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- *Read 1 Corinthians 12:27-31. Specifically reference v.31, why desire the greater gifts, but not the Office? What did Pastor Bryan state was one of the greater gifts?*
4. **Spiritual Gifts**—*Read Romans 12:3-6 and 1 Corinthians 12:8-11.* Spiritual gifts are gifts given by the Holy Spirit, in which God anoints men and women to do his work and to lead each other and minister to one another for HIS Kingdom purposes.
- Openly discuss your views and experiences with spiritual gifts, and just as important, your questions.
 - Have you ever, with intention, sought the Lord regarding gifts of the Holy Spirit or counsel for walking in the gifts He has given you? Why/ why not? Share if you desire.
 - Allow space to pray and wait on the Lord, as Holy Spirit leads you during discussions.
5. **‘Cessationism’**—*Read 1 Corinthians 13: 8-11.* What is ‘Cessationism’? What are 3 reasons that believers might have for aligning with this view? Discuss openly, even sharing your own apprehensions as a result of ignorance, unbelief or a past hurt/abuse. Encourage one another to prayerfully seek the Lord for His counsel, guidance, and deliverance around anything you are wrestling with.
6. **“The Priesthood of All Believers”**—*Read 1 Peter 2:4-5 and vv. 9-10 and reference/read “The Tree” diagram. From Pastor Bryan’s teaching, what does it mean to be the *priesthood of all believers*?*
- Outside of the four walls of the church, where is the sphere(s) God has called you to minister and be a missionary?
 - You are under the spiritual covering of God with the relational structure and leadership meant for your blessing, protection and equipping – for the glory of God, under the authority of Christ the King. How does this knowledge give you renewed perspective in your everyday life?

Witness: *Close by reading John 15:5-8. Reflect on the image of the Tree and the source of its life. See the beauty of the foliage and imagine the fruit (the hearts/souls won for the Kingdom of God!)—the natural outcome of being connected and remaining in Him and the Body of Christ. God has given us everything we need to be fruitful simply by resting in Him and submitting to his Lordship and leadership.*

And so, remain in Him—connected to Christ and the Body of Christ; ask the Lord to give you His perspective and His compassion for those He loves and be surrendered to His will and His ways for your life... Be expectant for fruit that is eternal!