

message summary

At this point in his letter Paul makes a noticeable shift. He turns from teaching about God's amazing revelations in Christ to urge his readers to take hold of God's provisions and promises and really live by them. It is easy to miss some of the nuances Paul is saying if we do not read it carefully. Ultimately Paul is addressing the church of Ephesus telling them that their calling is extremely important. They have a message that is one of a kind. The way they love one another is a display of God's love here on earth. The church is called to be different than the rest of the world. The church is called to manifest God's grace here on earth. Today, people are beginning to separate themselves from the church. They claim to love God but have no connection with His Church. Last week Pastor Chris taught that you can't have one without the other. Let's read Ephesians 4:1-16 and see that it is impossible to Love God and not be connected to His body.

observation

- How is the church supposed to be unified and one according to Paul?

- What are the gifts given to the church in this passage? How do they help the church become spiritually mature?

- What is the desired outcome or goal of the ministry and service in the Church, as stated in Ephesians 4:13?

interpretation

- Pastor Chris stated on Sunday that the church and culture have different messages. How is the church different than the world?

- If the church is like a human body, how does it function for optimal growth?

- What might the waves and winds represent in verse 14, and how can the Church guard against them?

application

- In what ways can we contribute to the unity and love within the Church, as encouraged in Ephesians 4:1-6?

- What Gifts do you believe you possess and how is God calling you to use it for his Kingdom?

- How can we effectively convey the importance of both believing in Christ and actively belonging to the Church?
