

Your Turn. | Week 3
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Reflection Focus:

Our character is the great ceiling of our capacity to share God's kingdom with others. We can't give away what we aren't becoming. We can't teach others what we don't truly know for ourselves.

Ephesians 4:1-13 gives us a picture of how to build up the body of Christ through equipping the local church for "works of service". Christ has been preparing us all to serve and share him with our world. We have never had a greater opportunity to do so than this cultural moment. We can connect with people in an instant and share Jesus via Skype, Zoom, text, call, email, social media, etc. Ephesians 4:14-32 calls us to do so until we reach unity in "faith", fullness of "love", and "knowledge of him".

Over the next three weeks, we are looking at these three elements of how you can take "Your Turn" This week's sermon examined how **Ephesians 4:14-18** calls us all to grow in our intimate "knowledge of Christ" that we become and make mature disciples of Jesus.

Passage: Ephesians 4:14-18 (NIV):

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 people in their deceitful scheming. **15** Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of 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. **17** So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. **18** They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

Reflection Questions (Use any of these questions you or your small group find helpful):

1. When did you feel closest to God this week? When did God feel most distant this week? Why? Why not?
2. **(Ephesians 4:14-15)** Think back to a time where you experienced meaningful growth in your "knowledge of Christ". In what ways did you shift from infancy to maturity? What practices or experiences pushed or sustained your growth?
3. **(Ephesians 4:14-16)** What is an ever-shifting belief you hold about God or our world, that is keeping you from maturing? From taking "your turn" in helping God to build his kingdom on earth as it is in heaven?
4. **(Ephesians 4:16-18)** How could pursuing "greater knowledge of Christ" help to mature your impact on your family, friendships, church community, workplace, etc.? How could it soften your heart towards them?
5. How can we pray for/help support you in "being the church" in response to your answers to the above questions? Feel free to email info@aseattlechurch.com