

EPHESIANS 3:20–4:1, 11-16 NIV

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ **to him be glory in the church** and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

¹ As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to **live a life worthy of the calling you have received**... Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up...mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then **we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth** by the waves... 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.

Live a life worthy of the calling you have received... to bring Him _____.

JOHN 8:31–32 NLT

Jesus said...“...remain faithful to my teachings...and **the truth will set you free.**”

2 TIMOTHY 3:16–17 NLT

All Scripture is inspired by God...It corrects us...teaches us to do what is right.

God uses it to prepare and equip his people...

2 PETER 1:20–21 NIV

...no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation...

they were **carried along by the Holy Spirit.**

JOHN 14:16–17 NLT

...He is **the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth**...he lives with you now...**will be in you.**

1 TIMOTHY 3:15 NIV

...God’s household...the church of the living God, **the pillar and foundation of the truth.**

HEBREWS 13:7,17 NLT

Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God...follow the example of their faith...**they are accountable to God...**

COLOSSIANS 3:16 NIV

Let the **message of Christ** dwell among you richly...**teach and admonish one another...**

**WE _____ AS WE VALUE AND EMBRACE TRUTH FROM
THE _____, THE HOLY SPIRIT, PROVEN CHURCH LEADERS,
AND GODLY CHURCH FAMILY**

GO “**ALL IN**” THIS YEAR

1. RAMP UP WITH **DISCOVER TRACK**
2. CONNECT IN A **SMALL GROUP**
3. DIG DEEPER IN A “**GROW-U**” CLASS
4. **MAKE A DIFFERENCE** ON THE DREAM TEAM
5. **PRAY ABOUT GIVING** IN DECEMBER’S LEGACY OFFERING

LET’S GO ALL IN... **TOGETHER.**

GO PUBLIC WITH THIS DECISION. **BRING SOMEONE** WITH YOU.

ON YOUR OWN:

Ask yourself, “WILL I embrace TRUTH SO WE CAN KEEP GROWING?”

Will I **pursue** God’s truth – and **abandon my opinions** for God’s truth **when I see it**?

Will I remind myself that others are **responsible to help me mature**?

Will I receive from those that are **responsible to equip me**?

Will I remember that my involvement is necessary **for others to mature**?

Will I to work at helping others **for their benefit**?

Will I always **use love** as I speak the truth?

EPHESIANS 4 DESCRIBES A MATURE CHURCH...

- no longer **infants**... *undeveloped, incapable, vulnerable*
- no longer **influenced off course** by the chaos & turbulence of life (waves)
- no longer **swayed** by every wind of teaching
- no longer **misdirected** by deceitful scheming

Instead, a mature church...

- is **familiar with truth**
- is **willing to share** truth
- has **Christ as our focus**
- is **connected intentionally**
- has **connections that equip**
- is **shaped by gifted leadership**
- **cooperates effectively**
- **contributes consistently**
- **benefits others**
- **displays love**
- is **motivated by love**
- is **known for love**

GOD EXPECTS YOU TO CHANGE AND REFLECT HIM

ROM 12:1-2, 1 COR 3:16-17, EPH 1:4; 4:24, COL 1:21-22, 1 PETER 1:15-16; 2:5-9, 2 PETER 3:10-12

STAY CONNECTED SO YOU GROW

Colossians 2 has some similarity to our Ephesians 4 focus. Examine the passage surrounding the verse below. How does it describe those who ‘lost connection’ to Jesus?

COLOSSIANS 2:19 NIV

...**They have lost connection** with the Head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, **grows as God causes it to grow**.

RECOMMENDED VIEWING ON THIS SUBJECT:



“LONG STORY SHORT”

March 2021

A 3-part sermon series featuring GrowU Teachers. This is a deeper dive with practical guidance for beginning to trust, understand, and study the Bible.



“BRING IT IN”

September 19, 2021

We hinder the maturing process for other believers when we are condemning and critical toward their behavior. This messages clarifies how God wants us to respond instead.



“LOVE HURTS”

February 27, 2022

Part of our “Not Today, Satan” series, this message helps you better understand how God allows pain as consequence to sin – and how you are more able to obey Him than you realize. Satan doesn’t force you to sin!



“FREE TREASURE”

April 23, 2022

Practical guidance for embracing the freedom that comes with truth. Bonus in the notes! You’re not a “wretched man” that cannot do what he wants and must do what he doesn’t want! You **can** live victoriously!