

Grace Group Guide

Ice Breaker

Question: Share briefly how you came to faith in Jesus. Was it a dramatic moment, a gradual process, or were you raised in the faith? (Note how different everyone's story is!)

Scripture Reading

Have someone read **Ephesians 4:11-16** aloud:

“And he himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for works of service, to build up the body of Christ, until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ's fullness. Then we will no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching, by human cunning with cleverness in the techniques of deceit. But speaking the truth in love, let us grow in every way into him who is the head—Christ. From him the whole body, fitted and knit together by every supporting ligament, promotes the growth of the body for building itself up in love by the proper working of each individual part.”

Discussion Questions

1. **The Lego Metaphor**

Pastor Phil compared the church to a Lego set—different shapes, sizes, colors, and functions coming together to create something beautiful. What does this imagery tell us about:

- How God views diversity in the church?
- Why we need people who are different from us?
- What happens when we try to build with only one type of piece?

2. **Three Goals**

The passage mentions three things the ministry gifts are given to help the church in:

- **Unity in the faith** (agreement)
- **Unity in the knowledge of God's Son** (precise, correct understanding)
- **Maturity measured by Christ's fullness** (growing into our finished state)

Which of these three seems hardest to achieve? Why?

3. **The Algorithm Problem**

Pastor Phil talked about how we spend 4.5-5.5 hours daily on our phones, and algorithms narrow our worldview by showing us only what we want to see. Where do you see this happening in your own life?

- Do you notice your social media feeds or the news you consume reinforcing only one perspective?
- How might this be shaping your view of Jesus or other Christians?

4. **Anti-Christ Messages**

The sermon mentioned several examples of “anti-Christ” messages that divide us:

- Political tribalism (claiming only one party is Christian)
- Echo chambers where friends only affirm us, even when we’re wrong
- Narrow Christian content that presents only one view of Jesus

Have you experienced any of these? How did they impact your spiritual growth or relationships?

5. **Mature vs. Immature Thinking**

Pastor Phil said: “Immaturity is when we believe that our specific shape, our type, is the only correct way to follow Jesus.”

- Where do you see this immature thinking in yourself?
- Where do you see it in the broader church?

6. **The Balance**

Speaking truth without love becomes harsh and divisive. Speaking with love but avoiding truth enables immaturity. Share an example of when you’ve seen someone speak truth in love effectively. What made it work?

7. **Unity Doesn’t Mean Uniformity**

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 (mentioned in the sermon) says: “There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit...different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord...God works in different ways, but it is the same God.”

- How can we maintain unity while celebrating our differences?
- Where do we draw the line between healthy diversity and unhealthy division?