

The Path Week #2 Notes

Ephesians 4:11-16

- 11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,
- 12to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up
- **13** until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.
- **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.

Main Idea: Get connected in a group to grow into your purpose and potential.

Pursue your <u>PURPOSE</u> by being <u>UNITED</u> with other believers

Ephesians 4:3-7

- 3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.
- 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism;
- 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.
- 7 But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.

Ephesians 2:15b

His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace,

Ephesians 2:17-22

- 17 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.
- **18** For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.
- **19**Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household,
- **20**built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.
- 21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.
- **22**And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

TRUTH + COMMUNITY + TIME = TRANSFORMATION

Live out your <u>POTENTIAL</u> by loving like Jesus... even when <u>IT'S</u> <u>HARD!</u>



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Ephesians 4:13

...Until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

"There is nothing more un-Christian than a solitary Christian." -- John Wesley

Ephesians 4:15-16

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.

Romans 12:10

Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Romans 14:13

Therefore **let us not judge one another** anymore...

Romans 15:7

Accept one another just as Christ also accepted us...

Galatians 5:13

...through love serve one another

Galatians 6:2

Bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfill the law of Christ

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, **teaching and admonishing one another** in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

1 Thessalonians 4:18

Comfort one another with these words

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Encourage one another and build up one another...

Hebrews 10:24

Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,

<u>James 5:16</u>

Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another so that you may be healed



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Talk About It

- 1. What's one thing you've achieved or an incredible experience you've had in your life that you wouldn't have been able to accomplish without other people?
- 2. What do you think when you hear that your purpose is to glorify God? How do you/can you pursue that purpose?
- 3. Read Ephesians 4:1-7

What creates unity in the body? Do you think people confuse being alike or the same with being united? What do we truly unite around as Christ's body?

In v. 7 what kind of grace do you think Paul is talking about? Cross reference 1 Corinthians 12:4 7. How does this play a part in life groups and other kinds of small groups?

4. Read Ephesians 4:11-16.

How does Paul describe what being "mature" is like in two different places? Why is learning to love one another in groups important to this happening?

How does growing in a group counteract or prevent what Paul talks about in v. 14?

- 5. Why is it necessary to get into a smaller, more consistent relational community to truly grow in love how is it different than our large gathering on Sunday mornings? How have you experienced that?
- 6. Put each person in the "hot seat" in your group (literally or figuratively) and have the group tell them what unique ways they bless the group or what you appreciate about them. Pray for one another to choose to be "built together into a dwelling of His Spirit."