

PART OF SOMETHING BIG



DIVERSITY STRENGTHENS UNITY

EPHESIANS 4:7-16

PART OF SOMETHING BIG





How do we get gifts?

Why do we get gifts?

What happens when we use our gifts?



⁷ But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men."⁹ (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God,



to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.



EPHESIANS

⁴There is **one body** and **one Spirit**—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—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 grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.⁸ Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men."⁹ (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.)



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• Each believer receives gifts.



- Each believer receives gifts.
- These gifts are diverse.



- Each believer receives gifts.
- These gifts are diverse.
- Jesus chooses who gets certain gifts.



- Each believer receives gifts.
- These gifts are diverse.
- Jesus chooses who gets certain gifts.
 - And, who doesn't get certain gifts.



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- Each believer receives gifts.
- These gifts are diverse.
- Jesus chooses who gets certain gifts.
- Giving us diverse gifts is part of Jesus' role as head of the Church.



Jesus gives some gifts to equip us all.



¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole



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• These gifts keep the body focused on Jesus.



Jesus gives some gifts to equip us all.

- These gifts keep the body focused on Jesus.
 - Discernment of the truth
 - Preaching of the truth
 - Teaching of the truth
 - Establishing the spiritual path and focus for those entrusted to them.



Hebrews 13:17

¹⁷ Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

James 3:1

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

Jesus gives some gifts to equip us all.

- These gifts keep the body focused on Jesus.
 - Discernment of the truth
 - Preaching of the truth
 - Teaching of the truth
 - Tending to the spiritual needs of the members of the church.

These gifts and roles help to launch the individual gifts within the Church.



Jesus gives some gifts to equip us all.

Jesus' gifts are given to help us all grow.



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• Enjoy doing it



- Enjoy doing it
- Others tell you your gift has value



- Enjoy doing it
- Others tell you your gift has value
- A desire to get better at it or help others get better



- Enjoy doing it
- Others tell you your gift has value
- A desire to get better at it or help others get better
- Passionate about using it for God and the Church



Jesus gives some gifts to equip us all.

Jesus' gifts are given to help us all grow.

Jesus' gifts, when used by all, make the Church rock!



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Jesus' gifts, when used by all, make the Church rock!

• What we won't do:



- What we won't do:
 - Be swayed by false ideas about God.



- What we won't do:
 - Be swayed by false ideas about God.
 - Be swayed by false people.



- What we won't do:
 - Be swayed by false ideas about God.
 - Be swayed by false people.
 - Be swayed by bright shiny objects that offer empty promises.



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- What we will do:
 - Speak the truth with other's best in mind.



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- What we will do:
 - Speak the truth with other's best in mind.
 - Grow up in our experience and expression of Jesus.



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- What we will do:
 - Speak the truth with other's best in mind.
 - Grow up in our experience and expression of Jesus.
 - Work together for the good of the Church.



- What we won't do:
 - Be swayed by false ideas about God.
 - Be swayed by false people.
 - Be swayed by bright shiny objects that offer empty promises.
- What we will do:
 - Speak the truth with other's best in mind.
 - Grow up in our experience and expression of Jesus.
 - Work together for the good of the Church.
 - Use our diverse gifts to love each and every member of the Church.



And the second second

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• Thank Jesus for graciously giving you the gifts He divinely meant for you.



- Thank Jesus for graciously giving you the gifts He divinely meant for you.
- Encourage someone else's gifts.



- Thank Jesus for graciously giving you the gifts He divinely meant for you.
- Encourage someone else's gifts.
- Ask Jesus to help you see how to use your gifts for the Church and God's glory.

