

# VALUE 5 | EQUIPPED FOR MINISTRY

## EPHESIANS 4:11-16

The pastor is the one who does ministry, right? I mean, isn't that what we pay him for? Well, not according to Scripture.

In Ephesians 4 the Apostle Paul outlines why the five-fold gifting of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers were given to the church: *to equip the saints for the work of ministry*. These individuals are given to the church (as leaders in the church in some capacity, whether vocational or non-vocational) to articulate the gospel well in order to edify the church so that every believer can fulfill their ministry mandate.

Again, the task of church leaders with the various gifts described in verse 11 is to equip all Christians in the church to do the work of ministry.

As we saw last week, every believer is *Empowered By The Spirit*, every believer has spiritual gifts to be used to minister to one another.

When we recognize that we are not called to be seat-fillers in the church but gift-exercisers, we then function in our roles for the good of the Body of Christ and magnification of Jesus Christ.

## **MEMORY VERSE**

Ephesians 4:11-12

*And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ*

## **BIBLE READING PLAN**

MONDAY	<b>EXODUS 3:1-22</b>
TUESDAY	<b>EXODUS 4:1-17</b>
WEDNESDAY	<b>1 CORINTHIANS 1:26-31</b>
THURSDAY	<b>2 TIMOTHY 2:1-7; 3:10-17</b>
FRIDAY	<b>HEBREWS 5:11-14; 13:20-21</b>
SATURDAY	<b>EPHESIANS 4:1-16</b>





## POST SUNDAY STUDY CONTENT

1. What have you seen as *the pastor's job*? Is it consistent with Ephesians 4 or different?
2. Think about the time you've been a Christian and a part of a church. Would you say that you have been *equipped for ministry*? Why or why not?
3. Reread verse 11. What are each of the "five fold ministry gifts" listed there and why are they vital for *equipping* the church well?
4. Read Hebrews 5:11-14. What does the author of Hebrews scold his audience for? What does he equate with *solid food*? Whether you've been a Christian for a short time or a long time, would you say you need *milk* or that you eat *solid food*?
5. Reread Ephesians 4:11-16. Why are all the saints (Christians) to be *equipped for ministry*? To what ends? What does it look like?
6. How does the individual Christian and the local church miss out if someone does not explore and/or exercise their spiritual gifts?
7. As a Life Group, what does it look like to equip and be equipped?