

# Built Up in Love

Ephesians 4:7-16

## Introduction

### I God Has Gifted Every Believer

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ in the OT - Ps 68:18
1. Where did Jesus ascend to? - Eph 1:19-21
  2. Where did Jesus descend to? - 1 Pet 3:18; Is 61:1-2
  3. What did Jesus accomplish? - Is 61:1; Matt 27:52-53
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ in the NT - 1 Acts 2:33; 1 Cor 12:8-11

### II God Has Gifted The Church

- A. With leadership
1. Apostles -
  2. Prophets -
  3. Evangelists -
  4. Pastors -
  5. Teachers -
- B. To equip the church
1. For works of \_\_\_\_\_ - Eph 2:10
  2. For the \_\_\_\_\_ of the church - 1 Cor 14:12
- C. Until we all reach:
1. Unity in the \_\_\_\_\_
  2. Unity in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ
  3. Full \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ

### III The Result Of God's Gifts

- A. The church is \_\_\_\_\_ from:
1. Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ - 1 Cor 13:11
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_ - James 1:6
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_ to:
      - Cunning and craftiness
      - Deceitful scheming

- B. The church is \_\_\_\_\_ to:
1. \_\_\_\_\_ the truth in love
    - a. In order to grow up into Christ
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ itself up in love
    - a. Through the contribution of each member

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. Share briefly what you think your spiritual gifts are? How are you using these to build up the church?
2. What does it mean "to speak the truth in love", as opposed to love without truth or truth without love? What does it take to speak to one another in this manner?
3. What does this passage teach us about the interdependence of the body of Christ? In what ways do you need others? In what way can you use the strengths and gifts God has given you to build up others? What are the pitfalls of being a "lone ranger" Christian?
4. What part are you playing in the building up and equipping of the church? Is there anything you would like to be doing or feel particularly called to do?
5. What area do you most need to "grow up" in spiritually? How can others around you assist you in this desired growth?
6. Pray for opportunities this week to be used by God to advance unity within the body and to move on to full maturity in Christ.

**BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE**

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