

Do the Work – Reach the Lost
Ephesians 4:1-16

Our goal as the Body of Christ is to reach lost people with the good news of Jesus Christ.

1. Gifts of grace
Ephesians 4:8-10 (NIV)

⁸ This is why it says: “When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.”

⁹ (What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? ¹⁰ He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.)

God who gave these gifts **ascended** and **descended**.

Before the gifts we see His **awesome** power.

We are who we are by the **grace** of God.

2. Diverse gifts
Gifts given by Christ to the Church –
Ephesians 4:11 (NIV)

¹¹ So Christ himself gave the **apostles**, the **prophets**, the **evangelists**, the **pastors** and **teachers**,

Apostles - sent out ones

Prophets - forth telling

Evangelist - love telling the good news to lost people

Pastors and Teachers – shepherd, guide and instruct

Completely **different** and **separate** but making one harmonious sound.

3. You are equipped for unity
Ephesians 4:12 (KJV)

¹² For the **perfecting** of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Ephesians 4:12 (NIV)

¹² to **equip** his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

Perfecting / Equip –

Strong's 2677 – Katartismos (Kat-ar-tis-mos') = Complete furnishing, equipping (comes from Strong's 2675)

Strong's 2675 – Katartizo (Kat-ar-tid'zo) =

1. to render, i.e. to fit, sound, complete
 - a. to mend (what has been broken or rent), **to repair**
 1. to complete
 - b. to fit out, equip, put in order, arrange, adjust
 1. to fit or frame for one's self, **prepare**
 - c. ethically: to strengthen, perfect, complete, make one what he ought to be

While He is **repairing** me, He is **preparing** me for the ministry He has called me to.

4. Mature us to the fullness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:14-16 (NIV)

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.

God wants more than **maturity** and **oneness** he wants the **fullness** of Christ.

We were **designed** to work together to reach the lost.

*Rhema Christian Center
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6pm*