

THE CHURCH THAT PLEASES GOD

STUDY GUIDE • EPHESIANS 4:14-16



# BUILT ON BIBLICAL BEDROCK

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# The Blessings of "Every-Member" and "Whole-Life" Ministry

EPHESIANS 4:14-16

# **WELCOME:** Fixing Our Focus

# Suggested icebreaker:

Have each GG member share what their spiritual gifts are and how they are using it in serving God. As each member finishes sharing, ask the rest of the group how they think this benefits the rest of the body of Christ.

# **WORSHIP:** Adoring Our God

# Suggested songs:

- Make Me a Servant
- Lord I Offer My Life to You

# LESSON AIM

- 1. GG members will be diligent to check if what others say are aligned with biblical principles.
- 2. GG members will commit to grow in Christlikeness.
- 3. GG members will make use of their spiritual gifts through whole-life ministry.

# INTRODUCTION

Paul painted a picture of believers being led by church leaders in using their different gifts received from Christ. He said that this leads to unity in the faith and spiritual maturity. How would we define spiritual maturity? What is the picture of a body of believers who are spiritually mature? Paul described this in the passage we are studying in this lesson. Let's take a look and see what this picture looks like.

# The spiritually mature are not easily persuaded (v. 14)

- 1. Paul contrasted the spiritually mature to spiritual children. What are spiritual children prone to which the spiritually mature are able to avoid?
- 2. Why do you think the spiritually mature are not prone to these?

# APPLICATION

## Children

Has someone misled you into thinking that something was okay to do when it's actually not? What do you think we should do as children of God so that we don't believe the wrong things?

## Youth

As you are maturing in your faith, what are some of the beliefs you are being exposed to right now (by your friends, relatives, what you see online, etc.) that you can see aren't actually biblical?

## Adults

How do you protect yourself from being misled by false or unbiblical beliefs?

#### Community

Following biblical truths is beneficial because the Creator knows what's best for His creations. What can you do to spread biblical truths and principles in your immediate community?

#### World

What are some beliefs being taught in the world right now that go against Scripture? How can you protect fellow believers from being persuaded into believing these?

# The spiritually mature grow in Christlikeness (v. 15)

- 1. In what manner should spiritually mature believers talk?
- 2. Why do you think it's important to balance truth and love when you speak? What happens when you neglect one or the other?
- 3. How does "speaking the truth in love" make you more like Christ?

# APPLICATION

## Children

Let's say, someone did something wrong, and you need to tell them. How will you tell them their mistake without hurting their feelings?

#### Youth

Getting into heated debates with our friends online has become much easier nowadays. As a believer, how can you better prepare yourself to be loving as you stand up for truth?

## Adults

Why is it sometimes difficult to "speak the truth in love"? Share a personal dilemma with the group so they can weigh in on the matter.

#### Community

Jesus commissioned all believers to share His love and teaching to others. When sharing the gospel to others in your community, how can you lovingly address sin in their lives?

#### World

We live in a postmodern world where people think what is true for them may not necessarily be true for others. What does the Bible teach about this kind of thinking and how can you "speak the truth in love" regarding this matter?

## The spiritually mature make their community grow in love (v. 16)

- 1. What happens when each member of Christ's body exercises Christ's gifts in their lives?
- 2. How do you think serving in ministry (whether it be at home, school, work, etc.) helps build the body of Christ?

# APPLICATION

#### Children

Although you are young, you can already serve God with your talents and skills. How can you serve God by applying the L.I.F.E (Loving God, Imitating Christ, Faithful to the Word, Engaging others in Missions and Discipleship)? Share some examples and explain.

## Youth

- 1. You can serve God with your local church family right now, together with the youth. How has God enabled you to serve Him?
- If you are a youth, join our Teams Night call every Tuesday 8PM on the Youth LIVE Discord server to find out how you can serve God alongside your church family! Link: https://discord.gg/kwMjh7VB.

## Adults

- 1. What ministry are you serving in right now? How do you see it help in building up fellow believers?
- 2. If you want to serve in the church, you can learn about the various ministry opportunities available and sign up at http://gcf.link/GCFServe.

#### Community

What kind of impact do you think a local church has on its immediate community when it is growing in love?

## World

You are not just part of a local church, you are also part of the universal church scattered around the world. How can you help build up the universal body of Christ?

# PRAYER ITEM

Pray for each other as you serve God in the different ministries where He has placed you. Pray that everybody in the church will develop an every-member and whole-life ministry mindset. Pray that God will use our church to be a beacon of His light in this dark world.





# Your feedback is important to us.

If you used this study guide in leading your growth group, please rate it at https://gcf.link/GCFSGFeedback. Thank you!



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