

The Leadership of Koinonia

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Ephesians 4:7-12 ⁷Now to each one of us grace has been given according to the measure of the gift of Christ. ⁸This is why it says: "When He ascended on high, He led captives away, and gave gifts to men." ⁹What does "He ascended" mean, except that He also descended to the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the very One who ascended above all the heavens, in order to fill all things. ¹¹And it was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for works of ministry and to build up the body of Christ. (BSB)

Intro: Ephesians 4:11 ¹¹And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; ¹²For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: (KJV)

I. Here are the details of this passage.

A. Each believer has been given a **gift** and this **gift** comes from the grace that Christ has purchased for us through his sacrifice for us. V. 7-8

B. He **purchased** this grace through his death, burial, and resurrection. V. 9-10

C. This makes Him the true **head** of creation; a title Adam had lost. "fill all things". V. 10b

D. We have a list of some of the **leadership** gifts that Christ gives the Church. V. 11

1. Apostle: the ability to take the Gospel to new areas. The office of The Twelve is represented through their writings in the New Testament. Jesus was the first Apostle sent by God to start the church.

Hebrews 3:1-2 Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, set your focus on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess." (BSB)

2. Prophet: The ability to present God's word to others in a way that is understandable. There are two types of prophecy: foretelling and forthtelling.

3. Evangelist: The ability to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a clear understandable manner.

4. Pastor: The ability to lead believers to be what God wants them to become. This is often called a shepherd.

5. Teacher: The ability to break down the word of God and present it to believers. While similar to prophecy this gift does not include the foretelling side of the gift of prophecy.

E. What is the **purpose** of these gifts?

1. Each believer is to be **equipped** to do works of service for the Kingdom of God. V. 11-12a

2. Each believer is to **discover** their place in building up the church and to get busy doing their part. V. 12b

II. How can we apply these truths?

A. We must be a **believer** in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

- B.** We must allow ourselves to be **led** by those whom God has put over us to prepare us.
- C.** We must see ourselves as **ministers** and to discover the unique ministry that God has for us.
- D.** We must **begin** our ministry. Review: Last week we talked about our general call and our specific call.