

“The Church That God Envisions”

Series: Learning to Live “in Christ” - Ephesians

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Last Sunday, we considered how the Church (the Called) is to resemble a Sandwich! Do you know remember why?



Slice 1 = Humility

Slice 2 = Service like Jesus

Meat of Sandwich = Non-Negotiables of the Faith

Once we grasp this basic concept, we are ready to consider deeper matters.

Let's read the text and then answer 3 important questions.

“So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until 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.

¹⁴Then 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. ¹⁵Instead, 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. ¹⁶From 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.” Ephesians 4:11-16

What Does God Envision His Church to _____?

“The purpose of this is that we should all reach unity in our belief and loyalty, and in knowing God's son. Then we shall reach the stature of the mature Man measured by the standards of the king's fullness.”

Ephesians 4:13 (NTE)

How Will the Church _____ to the World?

“As a result, we won't be babies any longer! We won't be thrown this way and that on a stormy sea, blown about by every gust of teaching, by human tricksters, by their cunning and deceitful scheming. ¹⁵Instead, we must speak the truth in love, and so grow up in everything into him – that is, into the king, who is the head. ¹⁶He supplies the growth that the whole body needs, linked as it is and held together by every joint which supports it, with each member doing its own proper work. Then the body builds itself up in love.” Ephesians 4:14-16 (NTE)

"Laws, like sausages, cease to inspire respect in proportion as we know how they are made." John Godfrey Saxe (1869)



"Once you see sausage being made, all you wanna do is make sausage cause it's so much fun!" Dwight K. Schrute (the Office)

How Will This Transformation of “Becoming” _____?

“So these were the gifts that he gave. Some were to be apostles, others prophets, others evangelists, and others pastors and teachers. ¹²Their job is to give God's people the equipment they need for their work of service, and so to build up the king's body.” Ephesians 4:11-12 (NTE)

God envisions a transformed flock that is well-equipped to Serve in 2 Arenas of Life:

- Arena #1 = _____
- Arena #2 = _____

All Scriptures are from the New International Version unless noted.

You may make comments or ask questions about this message by email:

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