

THE WE FACTOR: God's Design for Growth

Ephesians 4:11-16 • August 21, 2022

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INTRODUCTION

A. The role of leaders

Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church. — Ephesians 4:12

B. Growing in God

This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord. — Ephesians 4:13

I. God gets us ready

May he equip you with all you need for doing his will. May he produce in you, through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to him.
— Hebrews 13:21

II. God uses the study of His Word to help us mature

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.
— 2 Timothy 3:16-17

III. God uses others in our lives. Speaking the truth in love

A. We need role models

"Students are not greater than their teacher. But the student who is fully trained [equipped] will become like the teacher." — Luke 6:40

B. We need to be repaired

- Fix what is broken

In Matthew 4:21 the disciples restored [equipped] their nets.

- Bring back into alignment

If another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are spiritual should gently and humbly help [equip] that person back onto the right path. — Galatians 6:1

- Supply what is lacking

Night and day we pray earnestly for you, asking God to let us see you again to fill the gaps [equip you] in your faith. — 1 Thessalonians 3:10

C. We need an outlet

equip God's people to do his work — Ephesians 4:12

equip you with all you need for doing his will — Hebrews 13:21

equip his people to do every good work — 2 Timothy 3:17

IV. An Integrated Journey

He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. — Ephesians 4:16

- Spiritual growth is Intentional
- Spiritual growth is Incremental
- Spiritual growth is Habitual
- Spiritual growth is Relational

CONCLUSION