

**BEING THE CHURCH WE NEED TO BE**  
Ephesians 4:11-16 • January 29, 2023  
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**INTRODUCTION:**

A. SCC 2023!

*...so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.* — Ephesians 4:16

- “Encouraging unchurched people to join us as we become fully devoted followers of Christ.”

B. We can only achieve this great aspiration together.

- It is about how we function together:

3-3=0    3+3=6    **3x3=9**

**I. COMMISSION AND COMMUNITY ARE IRREPLACEABLE**

*This will continue until we all come to such unity in faith and knowledge of the Son that we will be mature...full and complete (in the) standard of Christ.*

— Ephesians 4:13

A. A great commitment to the Great Commandments and the Great Commission will result in a great Church.

**II. EVERYBODY NEEDS TO TAKE THEIR TURN (THEIR PLACE) IN MINISTRY**

*As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow...*

— Ephesians 4:12

*Encourage one another and build each other up...* — I Thessalonians 5:11

A. 20% of the people do 80% of the work and 10% of the people give 90% for the money. Which causes....

B. We all need to be stayers, prayers and payers.

*Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the Church...* — Ephesians 4:11

**III. WE WILL SUCCESSFULLY ACCOMPLISH OUR JOURNEY**

*“Go and make disciples....baptizing...teach (them) to obey all the commands.”*

— Matthew 28:19-20

- Lots of opportunity (need) and lots of interest (more than we might think)

A. Let's get into S.H.A.P.E.

*God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other...*

— 1 Peter 4:10

B. Let's step up our giving.

Now is the time to move to become an:

- **Emerging giver** — OK I've listened today and I'm feeling the nudging of the Holy Spirit. I'm ready to start giving to SCC.
- **Engaging giver** — I have given some but only occasionally.
- **Expanding giver** — I am giving regularly but, it is not yet 10%. I want to grow my giving by \_\_\_\_\_% until I reach a 10% tithe.

- **Expecting giver** — I am ready to trust God and give 10% of my income.
- **Elevating giver** — I give joyfully and generously beyond a tithe both at SCC and in the community, locally and worldwide.

C. The challenge is how people both see and experience the church.

- A place of acceptance (people belong before they believe)
- A place of patience (walk with people in their questioning and discovery)
- A place of helpfulness (practical assistance and practical answers)

**CONCLUSION:**