

All In All In – The Community Ephesians 4:1-16 (page 977/large print 1161 or 1243) Pastor Matt Kottman September 29, 2024

1. We Are Called to Something Greater than Ourselves (4:1-6)

2. We Are Given Grace to Serve that Call (4:7)

3. We Are a Body that Together with One Another Moves toward the Fullness of Christ (4:8-16)

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. Paul stresses that there is "one body, one Spirit...one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (vv. 4-6). Why is it important for the church to remember that we share this unity? How can we better reflect this oneness in our relationships with other believers?

2. Verse 7 says that "grace has been given as Christ apportioned it." What does this mean in terms of spiritual gifts? How does recognizing that gifts come from Christ change the way we view our roles in the church?

3. The purpose of these gifts is "to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up" (v. 12). What does it look like in practice to "equip" others for works of service? How can you help others in your church grow in their gifts?

- 4. The church is a body where "each part does its work" (v. 16). How does this metaphor help us understand the importance of each person's contribution to the church? What happens when parts of the body are not functioning properly?
- 7. How can you encourage and equip others to use their gifts in the church? Who around you might need discipling (mentoring, encouragement, or support) to grow in their faith and service? Where might you need others to further disciple you?

5. Think about your own spiritual gifts and how you can use them to serve others in the church. How can you be more intentional about using your gifts to help others grow in their faith?

8. In what ways are you seeking spiritual growth not only for yourself but for the body of Christ as a whole? What steps can you take to help those in the church or your growth group to grow in maturity, unity, and faith?

6. Is there a situation in your life where you need to speak the truth in love? How can you approach it in a way that reflects both Christ's love and His truth?