Sunday, September 5, 2021

A Call to Spiritual Maturity

Ephesians 4:7-16

David H. McKinley

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[7]But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift… [11]And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, [12]to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, [13]until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, [14]so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. [15]Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, [16]from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. —Ephesians 4:7, 11-16

1. God Gives _____ to _____

Ministry and Maturity in the Body

Spiritual gift = a special endowment from God for a specific task He has for us

[4]Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; [5]and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; [6]and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. [7]To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good… [11]All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as He wills. —1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 11

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. —Ephesians 2:10

But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. —James 2:18

And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!" —Revelation 14:13

2. God Provides _____ To _____
for Ministry and Maturity in the Body

Notes:

[1]So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: [2]shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; [3]not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. [4]And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.
—1 Peter 5:1-4

Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.
—1 Timothy 5:17

He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it. —Titus 1:9

3. God Calls _____ (Saints) to _____ in the Ministry and Maturity of the Body

• Exhibit a _____?

• Exercise _____?

• Express _____?

• Examine Your _____?

Notes:

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A WAY OF LIFE

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