

THE CHURCH
in here

THE CHURCH
out there

Week #3: Grow

11 It was he who “gave gifts to people”; he appointed some to be apostles, others to be prophets, others to be evangelists, others to be pastors and teachers. 12 He did this to prepare all God’s people for the work of Christian service, in order to build up the body of Christ. 13 And so we shall all come together to that oneness in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God; we shall become mature people, reaching to the very height of Christ’s full stature. 14 Then we shall no longer be children, carried by the waves and blown about by every shifting wind of the teaching of deceitful people, who lead others into error by the tricks they invent. 15 Instead, by speaking the truth in a spirit of love, we must grow up in every way to Christ, who is the head. 16 Under his control all the different parts of the body fit together, and the whole body is held together by every joint with which it is provided. So when each separate part works as it should, the whole body grows and builds itself up through love.

Ephesians 4:11-16 (GNT)

The collective gifts to help the Church grow “In Here”:

- Apostles _____.
- Prophets _____.
- Evangelists _____.
- Pastors _____.
- Teachers _____.

The individual ways to help me grow “Out There”:

I grow spiritually when I am:

- **G** _____ in God’s Word.

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 (NLT)

- **R** _____ on the Holy Spirit.

For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

Philippians 2:13 (NLT)

- **O** _____ in the process.

And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

- **W** _____ in love.

Therefore be imitators of God as beloved children. Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself for us as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (MEV)

Discussion Questions

1. Of the five gift types discussed today (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher), which one seems like the closest match to your gifting? In what ways have you seen God utilize that gifting in your life?
2. What is one way that you can utilize the gifts God has given you to help the church grow “in here”? Where do you need to grow your faith “out there”?
3. What are some practical steps you can take or practices you can engage in that will help you experience that kind of growth?

Recommended Resources

- *S.H.A.P.E.: Finding and Fulfilling Your Unique Purpose for Life*, by Erik Rees
- *Kingdom Purpose: Discovering Your Calling in God’s Great Design*, by Tony Evans
- *Finding God’s Will for Your Life: Discovering the Plans God Has for You*, by Joyce Meyer

Week #3: Grow - **FILL**

11 It was he who “gave gifts to people”; he appointed some to be apostles, others to be prophets, others to be evangelists, others to be pastors and teachers. 12 He did this to prepare all God’s people for the work of Christian service, in order to build up the body of Christ. 13 And so we shall all come together to that oneness in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God; we shall become mature people, reaching to the very height of Christ’s full stature. 14 Then we shall no longer be children, carried by the waves and blown about by every shifting wind of the teaching of deceitful people, who lead others into error by the tricks they invent. 15 Instead, by speaking the truth in a spirit of love, we must grow up in every way to Christ, who is the head. 16 Under his control all the different parts of the body fit together, and the whole body is held together by every joint with which it is provided. So when each separate part works as it should, the whole body grows and builds itself up through love.

Ephesians 4:11-16 (GNT)

The collective gifts to help the Church grow “In Here”:

- Apostles lead.
- Prophets speak.
- Evangelists share.
- Pastors care.
- Teachers equip.

The individual ways to help me grow “Out There”:

I grow spiritually when I am:

- Grounded in God’s Word.

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 (NLT)

- Relying on the Holy Spirit.

For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

Philippians 2:13 (NLT)

- Open in the process.

And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

- **Walking** in love.

Therefore be imitators of God as beloved children. Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself for us as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (MEV)

Discussion Questions

1. Of the five gift types discussed today (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher), which one seems like the closest match to your gifting? In what ways have you seen God utilize that gifting in your life?
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(GNT) Good News Translation

(NLT) New Living Translation

(MEV) Modern English Version