

Title- God's Plan For His Church...it's glorious!

I. Introduction - "I will build my church"

II. Review

III. Scripture - Ephesians 4:7-16

⁷But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it says, "WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVE A HOST OF CAPTIVES, AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN." ⁹(Now this *expression*, "He ascended," what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.) ¹¹And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. ¹⁴As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; ¹⁵but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, *even* Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

IV. 3 Stages of Christ's Building:

1. Christ gives _____. Vv. 7-11
2. Christ's _____ for His gifts. V. 12
3. Christ's vision for His church. Vv. 13-16
 - unity
 - maturity
 - love

V. Common Questions:

1. How can I know my gift (s)? 1Cor 12, Romans 12, 1Peter 4
2. How can I use my gift?
3. Where should I use my gift primarily?
4. How can I have more points of contact?