

SERMON OUTLINE/NOTES

"The Calling of the Body of Christ"

Ephesians 4:11-16

Introduction

- New Year Resolutions
- Overview of Chapters 1-4:10
 - Chapters 1-3 The Doctrinal Foundation Laid out
 - Chapters 4-6 The Character of the Person Made Alive in Christ

I. Grace given through the Offices/Officers of the Church (v. 11):

- 3 Offices
- Functions of Offices may Cross Over one another (2 Timothy 4:4-5)

II. The Purpose of the Offices/Their Contribution to the "Building up of the Church" (v. 12) – The Purpose is for the:

- Equipping of the Saints for the Work of Ministry
- Edifying of the Body of Christ
- "Equipping" or "Perfecting" (Luke 6:40; 1 Thessalonians 3:10)
- All who are in Christ are Responsible for the "*work of ministry and the building of the body of Christ*" (Galatians 5:17; Ephesians 6:12)

III. The Objective of Edifying the Body of Christ (vs. 13-16)

- To come to the unity of the faith – One Faith (v. 13; 4:3-6; 2:11-18; Revelation 2:9; 3:9; Galatians 1:8; 1 Peter 1:6-9)
- To the unity of knowledge of the Son of God (1 Corinthians 13:12; 1 John 3:2; Philippians 3:12-14) - To a "*Perfect*" or Complete man (Hebrews 5:14)
- To Speak Truth in Love and sharing with one another in our gifts for the growth of the Body of Christ (vs. 14-16)

Conclusion

- Resolve in our hearts to strive together with one mind for the faith of the gospel, standing fast in spirit (Philippians 1:27), faithfully spreading the good news of Jesus Christ for the building up of the Body of Christ and the glory of God
- Pray that God will give each one of us His to faithfully walk worthy in the calling He has called to – to the glory of God!