

Westwood Baptist Church *Grounded. Growing. Going.*

Worship Guide for March 27, 2022

Sermon Notes

Gifted for Growth

Ephesians 4:7-16

We see the immeasurable riches of God's grace towards us is in this truth: *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.* (Ephesians 2:8-10)

By his grace God saves us, and by his grace God gives every single believer good works to do, and by that same grace he provides for us the means to carry out these works. One dimension of these works is outward focused – a missionary ministry of taking the gospel to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). Another dimension of these works is inwardly focused – the ministry of “building up the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12). Each and every member is to do his/her part in this process of growth and maturity – to the end that the whole body is built up in love and reaches the “measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ” (Ephesians 4:13). Today's passage describes this responsibility, and how God enables us to accomplish this good work.

The Goal:

The whole body attaining gospel unity and conformity to Christ (4:13-16)

The Giver:

The Triune God who gives saving grace also gives serving grace (4:8-10)

The Gifts:

Gifted individuals for the church and individual gifts within the church (4:7, 11-12)

Applications:

Come to Christ – saving grace comes before serving grace

You are gifted – and your gifts are needed for the body to grow and mature

You are needy – outside of community & without others you will not grow and mature

Find your place - explore the ministry expo

Weekly Discipleship Guide

Know

**What does God intend for me to know?
In your journal, use the following prompts to write
some truths that stood out from this week's message.**

I never knew...	I was reminded...	A question I still have...
I was challenged...	I was convicted...	A truth I could share...
I was encouraged to...		I need to dig deeper into...

Be (Consider)

**What does God's Word lead me to prayerfully consider?
In your journal, use the following questions to write
some prompts to use in praying through this week's passage.**

Is there a command to obey?	Am I convicted to confess any sin?
How am I compelled to exalt God?	Is there a sin to avoid?
Is there a promise to claim?	How do I need to rest in Jesus/the gospel?
Is there a principle to follow?	How can I pray for someone else?
Is there an example to follow?	What am I compelled to love or desire?

Do (Yield)

**How does God's Word call me to yield my life? In your journal, write
your answers and thoughts in response to the following questions.**

How has God used his Word, his Body, and other factors to help you discover your spiritual gifts? What are some of the ways you have enjoyed using those gifts to build up the Body?

What are some ways you have been blessed through the giftings of other brothers and sisters? How has God used this to grow you in grace?

Did the ministry fair help you discover new ways to serve the Body this past Sunday? Did it open your eyes to ways that others serve the Body and build it up that maybe you weren't aware of before?

**Use this guide to help you internalize this week's message & to prepare for Life Group.*

Westwood Staff

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