

## “GROW UP & GET TO WORK!” [Part 6]

Pastor Mark Johnson

**INTRO:** In our series on Ephesians, we’re going to focus on *Walking Worthy of Your Calling* in Ephesians 4:11-16. After Christ’s ascension He gave the church five functional gifts (v. 11) to equip the saints for maturity & ministry (v. 12).

### **I. GIFT PRINCIPLES.**

- A. Focus more on what that gift produces in the saints than on the office gift itself (the person with the gift).
- B. Without all 5 of these gifts functioning in the church, the church can’t be fully equipped for maturity and ministry.
- C. Each church and individual believer is to be adequately impacted by each of these five expressions of Christ.
- D. These gifts require committed connection to the church!

### **II. MARKS OF MATURITY (vv. 13-16):**

- A. Coming into the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God (v. 13a).
- B. Coming into completeness (maturity) & Christlikeness (v. 13b).
- C. Stability in life, faith, doctrine, and discernment (v. 14).
- D. Speaking the truth in love (v. 15a).
- E. Growing up in all things into Christ who is the head (v. 15b).
- F. Each member joined and knit together to the other members, everyone using their gifts, causes the body to grow and be built up in love (v. 16).

### **III. THE 5 FUNCTIONAL GIFTS DESCRIBED & ILLUSTRATED (v. 11).**

- 1. Teachers – Grounds [Pinkie finger]
- 2. Pastors [shepherds] – Guards (Cares, Nurtures) [Ring finger]
- 3. Evangelists – Gathers (2Tim. 4:5). [Middle finger]
- 4. Prophets – Guides [Index finger]
- 5. Apostles – Governs [kingdom expansion] [Thumb]

### **IV. MORE GIFT PRINCIPLES & DYNAMICS:**

- A. Not hierarchical but relational servant team leadership.
- B. Every believer has a gift mix of all five functions.
- C. Any gift can potentially flow through you as needed.
- D. The principle of Base gift vs. Phase gift.
- E. The principle of Balance vs. Specialization.
- F. For balance, some need to serve out of comfort zone.