

## “GROW UP & GET TO WORK!” [Part 8]

Pastor Mark Johnson

**REVIEW/INTRO:** We’ve been looking at the five functional gifts Christ gave to the church to equip the saints for maturity and ministry (Eph. 4:11-12). Teachers ground (pinkie finger), Pastors guard (ring finger), Evangelists gather (middle finger), Prophets guide (index finger) and apostles govern (thumb). We’ve covered several gift principles and dynamics. A form of these gifts is also found in the marketplace.

### I. LOCAL CHURCH PERSPECTIVES.

- A. Any of these five gifts can potentially lead a church.
- B. The gift leading impacts the church’s focus & flavor.
- C. Each gift has common strengths and weaknesses.
  - 1. Apostle - tendency to neglect pastoral care and start more than can be properly maintained.
  - 2. Prophet - can be too hard on people.
  - 3. Evangelist - lack of deeper teaching.
  - 4. Pastor - can be inward focused & leave people stuck.
  - 5. Teacher – can be weak on evangelism & spiritual gifts.

\*Each gift can assume everyone should have their same passion and ability and look down on those who don’t.

### II. THE APOSTOLIC & PROPHETIC FOUNDATION (Eph. 2:20-22; 3:3, 5).

- A. The foundation determines the structure.
- B. The foundation should be apostolic and prophetic.
- C. Pastoral vs. Apostolic church (not either or but both and):
  - 1. Seeker-driven vs. Spirit-driven.
  - 2. Single vs. multi-generational & multi-cultural.
  - 3. Gathering vs. Sending.
  - 4. Comforting vs. Maturing.
  - 5. Maintaining vs. Mobilizing.
  - 6. Growing the church vs. transforming the community.

**CONCLUSION:** Let’s walk worthy of our calling by being equipped for maturity & ministry by these 5 functional gifts and then use our gifts to do our part to cause growth of the body and the extension of the kingdom of God (Eph. 4:16)!