

MESSAGE NOTES
Purpose > Self – Part 2 of 6
“What Are You Doing with What God Gave You?”
Ephesians 4:7, 11-16 & Others

Ephesians 4:7, 11-16 (NLT) –

⁷ However, he has given each one of us a special gift through the generosity of Christ....

¹¹ Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. ¹² Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. ¹³ This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God’s Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

¹⁴ Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won’t be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. ¹⁵ Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. ¹⁶ He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. Ephesians 4:7, 11-16

Introduction: During this message series, we are talking about how God wants us to make a difference in our church family and the world in which we live.

My God-given S.H.A.P.E. for Ministry

- S** – Spiritual Gifts
- H** – Heart
- A** – Abilities
- P** – Personality
- E** – Experiences

In Ephesians 4:11-13, God calls all his people to be ministers who use their ministry to build up the body of Christ. It’s not a pastor’s job to do all the ministry, but to prepare God’s people to do ministry. The pastor does the ministry they are supposed to do because of their spiritual gifts and calling. But everyone who is truly a follower of Jesus is to do the ministry that God has gifted and called us to do.

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT MINISTRY

The word for “ministry” in Ephesians 4:12 is the Greek word "diakonos" – "to serve". Our English word "deacon" simply means servant. Ministry is USING WHATEVER GOD HAS GIVEN ME TO SERVE HIM AND THE NEEDS OF OTHERS.

Foundational Truths About Ministry

- 1. We have been CREATED for ministry**
(See Ephesians 2:10)

- 2. We have been SAVED for ministry**
(See Ephesians 2:8-10)

- 3. We have been CALLED into ministry**
(See Galatians 1:13-16 & Ephesians 4:1)

A Life-Changing Truth – My Primary Identity:

I am a MINISTER of Jesus Christ

4. We have been GIFTED for ministry
(See 1 Peter 4:10-11)

A SPIRITUAL GIFT: A special ability, given by the Holy Spirit to every believer to be used to minister to others and therefore build up the Body of Christ.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE:

NOT FOR MY BENEFIT, BUT FOR OTHERS
(See 1 Peter 4:10 & 1 Corinthians 12:7)

TO PRODUCE MATURITY AND STABILITY IN GOD'S FAMILY
(See Ephesians 4:11-14)

Get Started!

S – START

T – TRIAL and ERROR

A – ANALYZE

R – REQUEST RESPONSES from others

T – TAKE TRAINING