

Sermon Discussion Guide

Gifts from the Ascended Christ

Ephesians 4:7–16

1. What stood out to you from the sermon?
2. In what ways has the Lord gifted you to serve in the church? Are you using your gifts? If not, why not?
3. When it comes to your spiritual gifts are you tempted more toward pride or despair? How does knowing that our gifts and level of giftedness come from Christ help us to avoid pride or despair?
4. Ephesians 4:12 can be interpreted in two different ways. What are the dangers of taking either view to an extreme?
 - a. View 1 (represented by ESV, NASB, NIV): The function of pastors is to equip believers to exercise their ministry in the church.
 - b. View 2 (represented by KJV): The verse describes three functions of pastors: (1) to equip/restore/complete believers, (2) to perform ministry, (3) to build up the body of Christ
5. Why is it important that every member exercise their gifts in the church (see 4:15–16)?
6. How does verse 16 demonstrate that you need the church and the church needs you?