

Discipleship and the Local Church Body

Ephesians 4

1) Living out a life worthy of what we have received. vs 1

- **1** As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

- **Four Counterweights.**

- **Eph 4:2**

2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

2) Whatever your gift the body needs it. vs 11-12

- **Eph 4:11-12**

11 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,

12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

■ **Rom 12:3-5**

3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.

4 Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function,

5 so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

3) The Body brings maturity.

14 & 15

- 14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming.
15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.
16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

- Part of Discipleship is functioning in a body.

- Quotes from Dr. Mulholland

The primary focus must be Trinitarian—God, Self, others—if we are to grow holistically into the image of Christ.

One of the major problems of our lives is our tendency to evaluate our pattern of preferences as being superior (or perhaps inferior) to the pattern of others.

- **The body and discipleship.**
- **1) Live a life worthy**
- **2) We all play a part**
- **3) Body brings maturity to build each other up.**