



# Is Church Worth It?

## Built Up and Sent Out

August 18, 2024 - Week Three

Recap of sermon series:

- Church is pointless if it is Godless
- This is a place to meet with God, to tabernacle with him. To dwell and rest in Him, With Him
- God in us leads to a life transformed and will lead to unity with others and in the church.
- We all have some experience we bring to the table with “church.”
- What is the “next right step”?

Ephesians 4:1-16

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: “When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.” (What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. 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 people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. 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.

>> Jesus himself has made the assignments, the gifting, if you will and for what purposes:

1. For us to be equipped

- God’s Word
- Missional living
- Understanding the power and influence of generosity
- Living in community
- Disciple making

“The Church exists for nothing else but to draw men into Christ.” – C. S. Lewis

2. For works of service

3. So that the body of Christ may be built up

“The Church is the Church only when it exists for others.” – Dietrich Bonhoeffer