

**1. The Unity of the Spirit**

- a) Ephesians 4:1-3 How does the Holy Spirit enable us to experience the unity that Paul describes in these verses? Romans 5:5, 8:26-27, John 16:13, etc.
- b) Why are qualities like lowliness, gentleness, bearing with one another in love, and striving for unity in the Spirit so important in a fellowship of believers?
- c) Why does Paul need to earnestly appeal to the Christians in Ephesus? (Isn't this unity automatic once we have accepted Jesus as our Savior and Lord?)
- d) How does Paul's list of "ones" in Ephesians 4:4-7 reinforce the unity we are called to experience as the Body of Christ?
- e) Share a time when you sensed this unity of the Spirit in a Bible study group or church community.

**2. Gifts from Jesus Christ to His Body**

- a) Ephesians 4:7-10 Compare this description of Christ's saving work with the early Christian hymn recorded in Philippians 2:5-11. What similarities to you observe?
- b) Where do we see the first manifestation of the Exalted Christ giving gifts to His Church? Acts 2:1-3
- c) What additional gifts does Paul list in his letter to the Christians in Ephesus? Ephesians 4:11
- d) Is this a complete list of spiritual gifts, or just the beginning?

Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11,28

- e) What is the purpose of these spiritual gifts that the exalted Jesus bestows upon His Church? Ephesians 4:12-13
- f) What evidence do we see that the spiritual gift of prophet did not end in apostolic times?
- g) How can we be assured that the manifestation of gifts we witness come from the LORD? Matthew 7:15-20, Ephesians 4:12-13
- h) What special spiritual gift has Christ given you to equip you for the work of ministry?

**3. Growing up into Christ**

- a) Ephesians 4:14 What dangers do believers face as they continue their walk with Jesus? Examples?
- b) Who is ultimately behind these schemes to disturb and disrupt the Body of Christ? Ephesians 6:11
- c) How should we respond when we become aware of Satan's schemes? Ephesians 6:10-11, 1 Peter 5:8-9
- d) What is Christ's ideal for His Church? Ephesians 4:15-16
- e) Why is love such a crucial characteristic of a healthy Christian community? 1 John 4:7-8, Galatians 5:22a, John 13:34-35, 1Corinthians 13:1-13

