

We Are God's Family
Building Up the Family of God
Ephesians 4:11-13

Seven Spirit-informed Truths that Unite

- One Body-** we share the same DNA as God's children
- One Spirit-** we share the same Spirit working in each of us
- One Hope of God's Calling-** we share God revealed goals
- One Lord-** we share commitment to Jesus as commander
- One Faith-** we share commitment to Jesus as Savior
- One Baptism-** we share immersion into one family
- One God and Father who is over us, through us and in us-**
We have the same Father working over us, through us and in us

*Jesus' shares all that He has
with every child of God (4:7-10)
so that
every child will contribute to Building His Body
so that
it will reflect Him in everything. (4:11-15)*

Jesus (Our Lord) Builds the Body (Our Family) Through Us

**1. Jesus provided the family of God "equipping members"
who help every child of God grow up. (4:11)**

- Apostles** those who knew and were sent by Jesus personally
- Prophets** those who clearly articulate God's will a situation
- Evangelists** those who communicate well with non-Christians
- Pastors** those with a heart for shepherding people
- Teachers** those who know and explain the Bible

2. The GOAL of "equipping" is that every child of God will become a "servant" of the family that builds a healthier Body of Christ. (4:12)

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| Equipping of the Saints | Job Training- Apprenticeship |
| The work of service | A Job Done with Excellence |
| Building up the body of Christ | A Well- Built Body of Christ |

3. The PROCESS unites every child of God in faith, true knowledge of Jesus' heart, being mature and as much like Jesus as possible in this life. (4:13)

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| Unity of Faith | (Equally Committed to Jesus) |
| Unity in Knowing Jesus mind and heart | (Like-Minded) |
| Unity in Managing life as a Mature Child of God | (Adulthood) |
| Unity in Commitment to being Like Jesus | (Christ-like) |

Am I Involved in the Plan?

- **Am I sufficiently equipped?**
Absolutely! Job training can change roles assumed over time.
What do I need to prioritize learning to grow?
- **Do I have sufficient understanding of my church family?**
I need to observe constructively as well as ask others.
I need to consider what best matches me at this time.
I need to resolve to serve Jesus sacrificially and pray.
- **Am I growing enough to speak truth into the lives of others and pray for them?**
All I do for other prioritizes love and encouragement.
I don't need to be perfect, but I do need to display joy. It rubs off!