
Basic Disciplines for Believers

Discipline #6: Selfless Serving

God's purpose and plan in saving me involves my selfless serving of others for the growth of His body & the advancement of His kingdom.

Learning to Serve (Ephesians 4:11-16)

OVERVIEW of 4:11-16.

God wants everyone mature.

God wants everyone ministering.

God wants to grow the body fully.

Ephesians 4:11-16

¹¹ And He Himself gave
some *to be* apostles,
some prophets,
some evangelists, and
some pastors and teachers,
¹² for the equipping of the saints
for the work of ministry,
for the edifying of the body of Christ,
¹³ till we all come to
the unity of the faith and
of the knowledge of the Son of God,
to a perfect man,
to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;
¹⁴ that we should no longer be children,
tossed to and fro and
carried about
with every wind of doctrine,
by the trickery of men
in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,
¹⁵ but, speaking the truth in love,
may grow up in all things
into Him who is the head
-- Christ --
¹⁶ from whom the whole body,
joined and
knit together
by what every joint supplies,
according to the effective working
by which every part does its share,
causes growth of the body
for the edifying of itself in love.

Chart

Καὶ αὐτὸς ἔδωκεν	God's Giving
τοὺς μὲν ἀποστόλους, τοὺς δὲ προφήτας, τοὺς δὲ εὐαγγελιστάς, τοὺς δὲ ποιμένας καὶ διδασκάλους,	God's Gifts The apostles The prophets The evangelizers The shepherds and teachers
πρὸς τὸν καταρτισμὸν τῶν ἁγίων	God's Recipients Toward the equipping of the holy ones (saints)
εἰς ἔργον διακονίας, εἰς οἰκοδομὴν τοῦ σώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ,	God's Purpose Unto work of service Unto building up of the body of Christ
μέχρι καταστήσωμεν οἱ πάντες εἰς τὴν ἐνότητα τῆς πίστεως καὶ τῆς ἐπιγνώσεως τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ, εἰς ἄνδρα τέλειον, εἰς μέτρον ἡλικίας τοῦ πληρώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ,	God's Goal (Positive) Until all arrive Unto The unity of the faith and The knowledge of the son of God Unto a complete man Unto a measure of maturity of the fullness of Christ
ἵνα μηκέτι ὦμεν νήπιοι, κλυδωνιζόμενοι καὶ περιφερόμενοι παντὶ ἀνέμῳ τῆς διδασκαλίας ἐν τῇ κυβείᾳ τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ἐν πανουργίᾳ πρὸς τὴν μεθοδεῖαν τῆς πλάνης,	God's Goal (Negative) No longer immature children Who are unstable Who are susceptible by every whim of teaching by the trickery of men by the craftiness toward the scheming of error
ἀληθεύοντες δὲ ἐν ἀγάπῃ αὐξήσωμεν εἰς αὐτὸν τὰ πάντα, ὃς ἐστὶν ἡ κεφαλὴ, Χριστός, ἐξ οὗ πᾶν τὸ σῶμα συναρμολογούμενον καὶ συμβιβασζόμενον διὰ πάσης ἀφῆς τῆς ἐπιχορηγίας κατ' ἐνέργειαν ἐν μέτρῳ ἑνὸς ἐκάστου μέρους τὴν αὔξησιν τοῦ σώματος ποιεῖται εἰς οἰκοδομὴν ἑαυτοῦ ἐν ἀγάπῃ.	God's Product Being truthful in love That we might grow up unto Him in in all things Who is the head Christ Out of whom all the body Being fitted together (present passive) and Being held together (present passive) Through the supply of every joint According to the energy In measure each one part The growth of the body doing Unto the building up of itself in love.

¹¹ And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

¹⁴ that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

¹⁵ but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head-- Christ--

¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.