**Sustaining Revival:  A Study on Ephesians**

**Lesson 12 “The Five Fold Ministry”**

I.  Introduction - We are studying the book of the ***Ephesians*** focusing on how to sustain revival.

A.  The revival in Ephesus was the largest new testament reveal recorded in ***Acts.*** Over 100,000 people were saved in a city the size of Greensboro within two years.  Ephesus became a revival center in the first century.  Multiple churches were planted out of this church including all 7 churches in the book of ***Revelation***.

B.  Paul wrote this letter to the church in Ephesus in A.D. 60 about five years later to establish them in truth after the goosebumps had worn off so they could have a sustained experience with God and continue to increase in person revival.

C.  The first three chapters of ***Ephesians*** focus onpositional truth (who we are in Christ, seated in heavenly places, how much God loves us, etc).  The last three chapters of focus ***Ephesians*** onpractical application or how we should live based out of who we are.  **They also describe what God’s kingdom looks like when it comes to the earth.**

1. **Last week we talked about the spirit of unity. God’s kingdom unifies around the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.**
2. **This is a key concept to remember tonight as we talk about how God sets His kingdom up through His governmental administration: The Five Fold Ministry. Once again we will see increase when diverse parts learn to walk in unity.**

II.  The Five Fold Ministry

1. **Ephesians 4:7-12** This is a quotation of ***Psalms 68:18***. This Psalm begins by saying, “Let God arise and His enemies be scattered.”
2. These verses give us detail on how this happens. Jesus raided hell and gave gifts to men. These gifts include salvation, healing, the gifts of the spirit, and in context, these ministry gifts (offices).
3. The purpose of these gifts is to equip the saints to do the work of the ministry. The Five Fold Ministry are personal trainers for the rest of the body. They aren’t the ministers we pay to do the work, they are the ones who equip us so we can work. **This builds up the body of Christ. *Ephesians 4:12 TPT*** *And their calling is to nurture and prepare all the holy believers to do their own works of ministry, and as they do this they will enlarge and build up the body of Christ.*
4. Offices
5. Apostle – sent ones -foundation layers – work starters – big picture thinkers. The word “apostle” come from the Romans. Romans would send in apostles to prepare the way for Caesar so if he came to a new conquered territory he would feel at home. Ex: Language, government, currency, customs. Examples today include missionaries, often church planters, etc.
6. Prophets – Those who hear God and point the way and train others to to do so. Ex: Marcus Wick, Old Testament – school of the prophets, Agabus.
7. Evangelists – those who win the lost and train others to so – Ex: Todd White.
8. Pastors – shepherds, caretakers, feeders of the sheep.
9. Teachers – Anointed to make complex truths simple. Ex: Andrew Wommack.
10. **Ephesians 4:13-16**
11. These offices are in place until we all come to the unity of the faith (in Jesus) and to a perfect man (full maturity). That hasn’t happened yet so that means all of these offices are still applicable today. Contrast with **Ephesians 2:19-22**.
12. Not called to the unity of the doctrine. Called to the unity of the faith. Last time we talked about how in the essentials we have unity, in non-essentials liberty, and in love things charity. The irony of the five fold ministry is the people who occupy these different roles often have different personality types that fit their specific call. Ex: Apostles – High Dominant, Pastors – high in mercy, teachers – very linear, prophetic – not linear, Evangelists – in the moment (spontaneous). **Danny Silk illustration –** We must work together with our God given differences to see maximum impact and increase.
13. When all of these offices are in function and believers get equipped to do the work of their ministry, the church of the Lord Jesus grows/increases.
14. ***Ephesians 4:14-16 NLT 14****Then we will no longer be immature like children.  We won’t be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth.****15****Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.****16****He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.*

III.  Conclusion – We are all called to an important role in the body of Christ. Find out which office you are called to or called to primarily serve under and get equipped so you can make an impact and help the body of Christ grow. Also, we must all make sure to walk in unity even with our differences.

A.  Pray for Unity

B.  Goodbye to Online Audience

**Danny Silk Illustration**

**Ephesians 4:11** tells us that God has anointed some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers. Silk describes these fivefold anointings in terms of what each might do at the scene of a car accident:

The ***pastor*** applies first aid, dispenses blankets and water. He gathers vital sign information, talks to everyone about their emergency contact details and brings a sense of calm to the situation.

The ***teacher*** studies the scene to see what caused the accident and what might be done to ensure accidents like this don’t happen again. The teacher concludes that drivers would benefit from more training and continuing education requirements.

The ***evangelist*** asks everyone “If you were to die as a result of your injuries, would you go to Heaven or Hell?” He speaks to the crowd of onlookers: “There are no guarantees that you will make it home safely. Do you know where you would go?” He then leads people to Christ and trains them to lead others.

The ***prophet*** knew there was going to be an accident because he had a dream about it the previous night. He walks around the crash scene rebuking the spirit of death and calling out the destiny in various people. He discovers who’s in charge of the crash scene and discerns whether this is God’s chosen leader or not. If he finds no one in charge he will appoint a leader.

The***apostle***releases the healing touch of God into the scene. He tells testimonies of how he has witnessed the power of God at other accident sites. The faith of the listeners rises and they too begin to pray for healing. The apostle starts a school for those who arrive at car accident scenes and sends them all over the world to do signs and wonders.

**IV. Discussion Questions**

1. **What was your top takeaway from tonight’s message?**
2. **What did you learn that you can apply to your life this week?**
3. **Do you fell called to the 5 Fold Ministry? If so, which office and why? If not, what office most closely aligns with your gifts and interests (this is probably and office you are called to serve under).**
4. **Describe a time where you have seen different ministry gifts (offices) work together and seen great results.**
5. **Have you ever seen the different ministry offices compete with one another. What were the results and what can we learn from this?**