

An Equipped Servant

PASTOR MIKE YODER • EPHESIANS 4:11–16



WARM UP

Have you made a New Year's resolution for 2018? If so, please share. Have you stuck with it?

COMING UP

GRACEPOLARIS.ORG/CALENDAR

Women's Bible Study Thursdays beginning January 25, 9:15–11:15 a.m. (child care provided) & 7:00–8:30 p.m., WC south hallway. GracePolaris.org/Women

Grace Students Football Sunday Sunday, February 4, 6:30 p.m., Youth Center

Considering Church Membership Class Sunday, February 11, 4:00 p.m., Grace Bookstore & Café

WITNESS

- On your white board, list the names of people in your sphere of influence you're praying will come to know Jesus.
- Share any progress/updates. Pray together for God to use you and your Grace Group to influence these people for Jesus.

EXPLORE

- 1 Describe a training program in which you've participated. What were the highlights and the purposes? What made it especially effective or valuable for you?
- 2 How is training as a believer — a devoted follower of Jesus Christ — different than other training you've received (according to Ephesians 4:11–16)?
- 3 Most training efforts are focused on the effectiveness of the individual. Ephesians 4 focuses on the character and fruitfulness of the group (the Church). How does this affect how we experience the training?
- 4 When is God's training of us finished? What are some specific milestones or marks of progress along the way for individual believers and for a local church?
- 5 Paul is keen on our capacity to be mature and not to be vulnerable to various kinds of false teaching and doctrinal distortions. Name some common distortions in our day about who Christ is and what the Christian life is (or how it should be lived).
- 6 We live in a day with talk of "alternative facts" and "fake news." Why is it so important that followers of Jesus are people who live and speak the truth, especially to other believers? Why does our tone and motivation ("in love") matter?
- 7 Paul's focus is on the "Body." Christ himself is essential and the individual believer matters. How does the passage emphasize that?

PRAY

Read 1 Corinthians 12. Pray that God would help you embrace His training plan for your life and that you would bear fruit that builds up the Body of Christ.