**“The Spectrum of Discipleship”**

Part 4

“Discipleship of Old Mature Believers: Church Assembly”

(Ephesians 4:1-3, 13-15; 1 Thess. 2:1-8)

Big Idea: God wants us as a local church to grow in walking worthy and working the ministry of Christ.

**How is the church and its members getting built?**

* **The Architect and Builder of the church** (Matthew 16:16, 18; 1 Peter 2:6-8)
* **The Architect’s and Builder’s role in the church** (Ephesians 4:8-16)
	+ **Jesus has the position of supreme authority from which He builds His church because of His incarnation, passion, resurrection, and ascension.** (Eph 4:8-10)
	+ **Jesus gave people to the church for equipping and edifying the saints for the work of the ministry.** (Ephesians 4:11, 12)
	+ **Jesus sets the goal of this equipping and edification as maturing into the likeness of Christ and speaking the truth against false trickery of men** (Ephesians 4:13-15)
	+ **The learned and mature members of the local church who are equipped for ministry will initiate further growth of fellow believers.** (Ephesians 4:16)
* **The church cannot prevail against Hades (Matt. 16:18) when the assembled church is passive.** (1 Peter 5:8, 9; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5; Ephesians 6:10-13)
* **The local church is made up of regenerated people who are developing spiritually.** (1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22)
* **The primary tool that Christ uses to build his church is His Word of Truth.** (Acts 20:32; 2 Timothy 3:15-17)
* **The church’s building progress will be evaluated by the Architect.**
(1 Corinthians 3:9-17; 2 Corinthians 5:9-11)
* **Mature believers are needed to teach others with the aid of the Holy Spirit.** (James 3:1; John 14:16, 17; 15:26, 27; 16:5-11; 1 Corinthians 2:6-16)

**SUMMARY:**

* **Christ is the head.**
* **We must be alert to false models of faith and practice.**
* **We focus on building people’s spiritual lives.**
* **The Bible is the primary tool for building and maturing.**
* **Christ will inspect the building of His church.**
* **We rely on the aid of the Holy Spirit to mentor and build the church.**

**A discipling church encourages itself to walk worthy with humility, self-control, patience, and care for others in love for unity and peace.** (Ephesians 4:1-3;

1 Thess. 2:1-8)

**APPLICATION:**

* **What “Blueprint” should discipleship and mentoring follow for “old/mature” believers to “BUILD UP” Christ’s church?**
* **Serving as an Instrument of Change** (Paul Tripp, *Instruments in the Redeemer’s Hand*):

**T\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Superficial**

**Change**

**Fix It E\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**Negative Fruit**

**P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Fruit**

**Heart**

**C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Do**

**Speak**

**Know**

**How Do We Disciple Others as a Church?**

**Love**

1. **Men’s Ministries:**
2. **Ladies’ Ministries:**
3. **Children’s Ministries**

**How are we doing as a church in discipleship?**

**What can we do more to disciple believers in their walk with the Lord?**