

Sermon Notes

Themes from Ephesians

“Finally -- Adulthood” – Ephesians 4:14-16

I. Introduction

A. What is the purpose of the church?

1. Missionary emphasis?
2. World social concern?
3. Fortress of protection?

B. Paul’s view.

1. Ultimately the purpose is for God’s glory.
2. Yet, in this specific letter to Ephesus, Paul is arguing that the church is where the people of God grow into w_____
 - a. Ephesians 4:11-13; Ephesians 4:14-16
 - b. There is a strong admonition to grow _____!
 - c. Two significant phrases.
 1. Unity of the faith, verse 13.
 2. Knowledge of the Son of God, verse 13.

II. Exposition

A. Growing in truth, verse 14.

1. Note contrast between children and adults.
 - a. Children are easily deceived.
 - b. Teaching gifts, previously listed in verse 11, are provided to encourage growth.
2. “Tossed here and there by waves.”
 - a. Experientially, Paul knew what it was like.

Acts 17:13,14,17-20

b. Believers must not oscillate.

3. Hendrickson

a. Following the teaching and instructing to others is paramount (Matthew 28:19-20).

4. “Trickery”

a. From the Greek word *kubeia* and derived from *kubos* meaning cube. A reference to dice. Deceitful people often loaded dice to achieve the numbers they desired.

B. Verse 15

1. Maturity comes with spiritual discernment.

- a. MacArthur
- b. Barclay

2. Illustration – The basket and links of a chain.

C. Verse 16

1. The term “body” harks back to verse 12.

2. The parts of the body work in h_____.

3. Note importance of staying close to the head (Jesus).

Colossians 2:19.

III. Points for Reflection

A. Adulthood is achieved by immersing yourself in God’s Word.

B. Growing up is not an option for the Christian.

C. Finally, love for God and the Christian body must become a bias within our lives.