

**EPHESIANS – THE MYSTERY OF GOD’S CHURCH –
OUR IDENTITY, OUR WALK, OUR WARFARE
PROGRAM 39 (#912219)
WEEK 8 (912348)
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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

**SERIES: Ephesians – The Mystery Of God’s Church –
Our Identity, Our Walk, Our Warfare**

TITLE: Program 39 – Are You Ready To Fulfill God’s Purpose?

THURSDAY

OPEN

O Beloved, do you know what God is concerned about in respect to you? It’s not about sin, because sin should not be the issue. You should have such a heart for God as a follower of Jesus Christ that you’re not walking in sin, but rather you’re walking in righteousness. But His concern is that you fulfill the purpose that He has for you. It is so important to the function of the body of Christ that you do what God has called you to do.

PART ONE

As I look out the window Beloved, as I direct my thoughts and my prayers to heaven on your behalf, as I think about the lesson today my mind is drawn to the apostle Paul, the author of the book of Ephesians that we’re studying. And when I think about Paul and I think about all that he has written and

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I’ve studied everything that Paul has written and I’ve studied it in depth. But as I’ve studied it the thing that I see is Paul’s concern is not whether he’s going to be living in sin or living righteously before God. He’s settled that issue. Rather his issue is am I serving God? This is what I’m doing to serve God. Everything is on God’s purpose for Paul’s life. And this is the way it ought to be for you and for me. Once we come to know Jesus Christ, once we are truly absolutely born again, born of the Spirit, once we make that commitment to Jesus Christ and God puts His Spirit inside of us the issue should not be whether I’m going to sin or whether I’m not going to sin, because the Spirit inside of us makes us hunger and thirst for the things of righteousness. But the issue ought to be, I want to grow up. I want to mature. I want to fulfill God’s purpose for me. When you look at the book of Ephesians what you see is you see the importance of you and I being equipped, being made ready, being prepared for the work of the Lord, for the service of the Lord. We looked at this in our last program and I want us to go back and look at it again. But as we think about purpose because I’m going to show you what the word “equip” means in just a minute. But as we think about purpose I want to take you back to Ephesians chapter 1. Remember this is an epistle. Every part of it fits together in order to accomplish Paul’s purpose in writing this book. And one of the things that he says to us, in verse 9 of chapter 1, **“He, [God] made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him,”** which He purposed in Jesus Christ. **(Ephesians 1:9)** And then we drop down to verse 11 and it says, **“also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined...,”** marked out beforehand **“...according to His purpose...,”** according to God’s purpose for us, **“...who works all things after the counsel of His will.” (1:11)** In other words God has a purpose for you. God has a plan for you. So how is He going to achieve it? Well this is where we find the importance of the church. This is where we find the importance of these gifted men that God gives to the church for the purpose

of equipping the saints. We talked about this in our last program and I gave you the overview of what he is saying in Ephesians chapter 4. Now what I want to do is pick these verses apart so that I make sure that you understand what God is saying to you, what God wants you to know. And knowing this truth and having this knowledge so that you might grow up, so that you might mature. In Ephesians chapter 4, verse 11 it says, **“And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastor... teachers,” (Ephesians 4:11)** pastors and teachers both being one. So what we see is we have four kinds of gifted men. We have apostles. We have prophets. We have evangelists. And we have pastor-teachers. If you have your diagram from the last program, the one that we drew out I want you to get it out again and I want you to look at these four men. All right **“...He gave [them] apostles ... prophets ... evangelists ... and pastor ... teachers for the equipping of the saints....” (4:11-12a)** And remember we wrote “equipping” underneath that and then we put a bunch of heads to represent the saints of God. So the apostle, the one that comes with this message, the one that establishes churches so to speak, the prophet who’s there speaking for God, speaking for edification and exhortation and comfort having a word from God, and I’m not talking about any revelation apart from the Word of God. But I’m talking about something that God has burdened that person’s heart with. People tell me that I have the gift of prophecy. Now that’s not going up to someone and saying this is what God is telling you to do and this is what God is telling you to do, but rather sometimes when you hear me speak in public to a group of people God will just kick in with this gift of prophecy and it is a timely message. It is an urgent message. It is a burden that is on the heart of God that comes through. This is what I’m talking about, to speak to edification, which is building up, to exhortation, which means come alongside and go and to edification and exhortation. This is what the prophet does. And then you have the evangelist. The evangelist is to teach the church how to share the gospel of

Jesus Christ. Then you have the pastor-teacher, the one that is the shepherd that’s going to watch over that flock, but also feed the flock, nourish the flock, make sure that they get sound teaching. So all of this is for the equipping of the saints. Now what is the word “equipping?” And I want you to get this down. It is the Greek word “k-a-t-a-r-t-i-s-m-o-s.” And that word means to put right. It is used of mending an arm. It’s used of taking those two bones that are out of joint and putting them back in joint. It is used of mending nets, of seeing a net and there is a hole in it and the catch is going to get through that net. So it’s to mend that net. It’s to put it back together. It really has the idea of helping whatever it is to fulfill its purpose. Did you get that? So what these four men are to do, the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastor-teachers are to do for the saints is they are to mend your net. They are to put that bone in joint. They are to help you fulfill your purpose. So if they’re going to do that and they’re going to equip you and they’re going to mend the net or they’re going to get that bone back in joint you’re going to know that there’s going to be some exhortation. There is going to be some reproving. There is going to be some rebuking as they minister to you, but also there is going to be teaching, equipping, preparing you for what? Do you remember on the diagram? You’re equipping them, the saints for, and remember I told you to put just little legs on all these people so that you can see that these people then are to go out and they are to do the work of service. They’re not just to sit in the church and come every Sunday and sit and sit and sit and go home and live like the rest of world. And I’m not talking about sin, but I’m talking about just being involved and entangled with the affairs of this life. They’re to be out there fulfilling God’s purpose. Now let me go back and let me review again by taking you to Ephesians chapter 2, verse 10. It says, “**...We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus [unto] good works, which God [has ordained for us to] walk in....**” (Ephesians 2:10) God planned, foreordained good works for you and me to walk in. So what is the church? Well the church then is all

about getting you ready to walk in these good deeds, **“...to walk in a manner worthy of the calling...”** (Ephesians 4:1b) that you have in Christ Jesus. The Spirit of God has gifted you. You have that gift. You get that spiritual gift the minute that you get saved because He saves you and He places you somewhere in the body of Christ. Now you don’t discover that gift usually until later. You don’t discover that gift until you start to mature, until you start to grow up. But as you start to grow up and as you start to mature so that you can go out and be used for the Lord then you need to be equipped, but you also need to be taught and that’s what’s so important. So let me read Ephesians, chapter 4 and watch what he says. He says, **“...He gave some as apostles, ...some as prophets, ...some as evangelists, ...some as pastor ...teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ.”** (Ephesians 4:11-12) So God has these men to equip you for two things, the work of service and two, the building up of the body. All right now how is this done? How is this accomplished in the church and you need to know because when you’re in the church you need to understand I’m in this church and I’m here for a purpose. I’m not here just to be entertained. I’m not here just to get all of my problems solved. I’m here so that I can grow. I’m here so that I can be equipped. I’m here so that I can fulfill my purpose. So what he’s going to show you is this is done by bringing you to maturity, by bringing you to Christ-likeness. Listen to what he says, **“Until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.”** (Ephesians 4:13) In other words what does he want? He wants you to be like Jesus. So what is to be happening in church? What’s to be happening in church is that you should be growing up and growing up and growing up and becoming more and more like Jesus Christ. You should be learning about Jesus. You should have a knowledge of God so that when you walk out you understand who God is, you understand who Jesus Christ is and you walk in

a manner worthy of that. You live according to that stature. You live Christ-like. You say, tell me more about it. I will, but you know what? It’s important for us to hear this announcement and when it’s finished I’ll be right back.

PART TWO

Welcome back, Precious One. As you and I look at Ephesians chapter 4 I hope that you’re seeing that God’s goal for you and God’s goal for me is maturity. And with maturity comes the unity of the body the unity of the faith. They’re synonymous, because oneness comes when we’re thinking the same way, when we’re operating the same way, when we have the same goals, we have the same desires, when it’s the kingdom of God that we’re all about, when it’s Jesus Christ that we’re all about, when it’s not us, but it’s Him, when it’s the building up of the body of Jesus Christ in love, so that we can be more effective for God. So maturity is the goal. And with maturity is the unity of the faith. And the unity of the faith happens as we grow up. Well let’s look at it. Ephesians chapter 4, verse 13 again, it says, **“Until we all attain to the unity of the faith....” (Ephesians 4:13a)** Now remember we’re to keep the unity of the Spirit. It’s already established. It’s already done and we saw that in chapter 1 in verse 3. But now we are to **“...attain to the unity of the faith....” (4:13a)** And I shared with you in your study guide... Did you get your study guide? If not it’s absolutely free. You can download it by going to [“preceptsforlife.com,”](http://preceptsforlife.com) [“preceptsforlife.com.”](http://preceptsforlife.com) We want you to study God’s Word. That’s the purpose of this program, is to teach you the Bible book by book, and to walk you through it verse by verse so that you really get truth under your belt, so that you can come to the unity of the faith. So how did I mark it? I put a triangle over “unity” and I colored it and then underlined it, “unity of the Spirit” in verse 3 and then “unity of the faith” in verse 13. So he says, **“Until we all [come] to the unity of the**

faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God....” (4:13a) Now what does he want? He wants unity of the faith and he wants us to be one in our knowledge of God, in our understanding of God. And this is why on this program you’re going to find me not only teaching New Testament, but you’re going to find me teaching Old Testament, because it’s in the Old Testament that you really get to know God. And God tells us in the Old Testament that His people are perishing because of a lack of knowledge. And because of a lack of knowledge the next generation, our children, are suffering. So we’ve got to know God. And we’ve got to know the Son of God. We’ve got to understand who God is. We’ve got to understand who Jesus Christ is. But Jesus Christ explained Himself to His apostles by taking them through the Old Testament or to the men on the road to Emmaus. It says, **“...to a mature man, to the measure...,” (Ephesians 4:13c)** and there again is that word “measure”. You saw it in verse 7. Now you see it again in verse 13. And it’s a key word that we asked you to mark so that you can see how this measure is so important. **“...To the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.” (Ephesians 4:13 b)** So what he’s saying here is this, okay, if this is the standard, if this is the height of Jesus Christ, if this is what Jesus Christ is like he says I want to back you right up to what Jesus Christ is like. And just imagine me standing up against a door frame and there’s a mark of the standard of Jesus Christ and he wants to take me from being a little child to a mature adult to this **“...measure of the stature ... of the fullness of Christ.” (4:13b)** Now this is for all of us. This is one measure that he wants every one of us to attain and it’s the same measure here. It’s the **“...measure of the stature... [of] the fullness of Christ.” (4:13b)** And so he goes on to say, **“As a result we are no longer to be children, tossed [to and fro] and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, [and] by craftiness in deceitful scheming.” (4:14)** In this phraseology what you find is you find a term for throwing dice. And maybe you’ve been some place

and you’ve seen them down on the floor and you’ve seen them taking that dice and shaking it in their hand and they’re rolling it against the wall and they’re saying seven come eleven, baby needs a new pair of shoes. Well it’s not talking about that kind of rolling of dice, but it’s talking about rolling of dice to get the spots to come up right. So what he’s saying is if you’re a child and you don’t grow up you are vulnerable to these people that are coming with every kind of wind of doctrine. You know we do a lot of ministry in Israel. And you can find every latest wind of doctrine in Jerusalem. It is like a magnet for people that are off the wall. I had Benny Elon who’s a good friend of mine and who was a member of the Knesset and a real real God fearing man. He was a rabbi. And he told me, he said you know, a lot of people are not substance. There’s no substance to them. And he says your teaching has substance. He says the other is just so much wind. It is so much dust, but there’s no root, there’s no substance there. There has to be substance Beloved. It has to be from the Bible, not the Lord gave me this revelation. The Lord gave me that revelation. The Lord may have revealed something to you, but you have to make sure that it measures up against the Word of God. Well if you’re a child you’re not getting into the Scriptures. Instead you’re just following every wind of doctrine. You’re following the cunning craftiness of men. You’re in a crap game with the devil and the dice are loaded against you. And so this is what he’s saying. He’s saying, **“But speaking the truth in love....” (Ephesians 4:15a)** Now when he says, **“...speaking the truth in love...,”** really the verb **“speaking”** is not there. They tried to translate it, and this is what it means. It is literally truthing it in love. In other words grow up, hold to the Word of God, hold to the correct doctrine, to the correct teaching, but do it in love. Do it in love. So many times you find people that disagree with you doctrinally and they become very very hateful. You don’t want that. So he says, **“...speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects [unto] Him....” (4:15a)** Every aspect of your life is to be Christ-like, **“...who is the head, even**

Christ, from whom the whole body...,” the whole body now, “...being fitted and held together by [that which] every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.” (4:15b-16) What is he saying here? He’s saying the focus is not on the individual but on the body, building up the body in love. And yet he’s saying although the focus is on the body the individual must work properly because if the individual is not working properly within that body then the body’s growth is being retarded. Do you see, Precious One, how important it is for you to know your purpose, to fulfill your purpose, to have a proper working in your life? It’s not an issue of sin. That issue of sin ought to be over. You ought to hunger and thirst for righteousness. It ought to be an issue of I’m going to grow up. I’m going to get in the book. I’m going to study the book. I’m going to learn the book and what I learn I’m going to apply so that I am living like Jesus so that I do my part in the body of Jesus Christ. Here’s the head giving orders to the body. Here are the joints supplying what the body needs. Now I’m going to take what’s being supplied to me and I’m going to use it and I’m going to mature and I’m going to be like Jesus. I’m going to fulfill God’s purpose. Good for you Beloved. We’ll talk about it more in the days to come.