

# Biblical Community Speaks the Truth in Love to One Another— Ephesians 4:11-16

Everyone is to be equipped for ministry within the church community (Ephesians 4:12).

Everyone ministering to one another results in unity, maturity, and stability (Ephesians 4:13-14).

Everyone is called to minister to one another by speaking the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15-16).

## **Questions for Discussion & Application:**

1. What was surprising, challenging, or helpful from this study of God's Word?
2. Who is to do all the work of ministry within the church? (see Eph. 4:12)

3. Why is it so important that everyone be equipped to do ministry and engaged in ministering to others within the local church?
4. How do you serve in our church family? If you aren't sure how you can serve, what could you do to change this?
5. How has serving proved to be a blessing in your own life and a means to your own spiritual growth?
6. What are some of the positive descriptions we receive in Ephesians 4:13-14 of a church where everyone is engaged in ministry? Do we see these qualities increasingly in our own church family?
7. What does it mean to speak the truth in love? What wrong ways of speaking into one another's lives do we need to avoid?
8. Biblical community means that within the church we have authentic relationships that lead to spiritual transformation. Why would speaking the truth in love be a necessary part of authentic relationships?
9. What could make it difficult for you to speak the truth in love to others? What can you do to overcome these difficulties?
10. Do you have any examples of Christian friends who have spoken Biblical truth into your life in a way that was helpful? What can you learn from the way they spoke to you? Did these conversations strengthen or harm your friendship with these persons?

**Additional Questions for Personal Reflection:**

1. Do you have authentic friendships within our church family where your friends are welcome to speak Biblical truth into your own life?
2. How could you pursue more of such friendships within our church?
3. Do you think it is easy for others to speak the truth in love to you? Why? Why not?