

The Church

PART THREE



GIVEN FOR

Who we are determines what we are for.

SERIES BIG IDEA:

We are forgiven so we can be given for Jesus, for His church, and for our cities.

We are for Jesus because Jesus is for us. (1 John 4:19)

¹⁴For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:14-21 (NIV)

God's power is at work within me, and He is able to do more through us, the Church, when I live for Him.

When I discover what I am for, I discover my purpose.

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

My purpose is to become like Jesus and use my gifts to be a gift to the body of Christ so that we fulfill Jesus' mission.

We share a universal calling to become like Jesus.

¹As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ²Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:1-6 (NIV)

Our universal calling is to grow in our character so that we reflect Jesus' character.

⁷But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. ⁸This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people." ⁹(What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? ¹⁰He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.)

¹¹So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:7-13 (NIV)

My unique calling is to be a gift for the church and use my gifts for God's purposes.

- **God has uniquely shaped me to equip others in the church.**
- **My unique calling is to be an expression of Jesus' presence by embracing my role in APEST. (v11)**
- **I mature when I grow in my character (universal calling) and operate in my giftedness (my unique calling).**

The Church

PART THREE

Q **G I V E N F O R**

My role is to equip the body of Christ for works of service so that we are unified in our faith and knowledge of Jesus and live in the fullness of Christ.

¹⁴Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Ephesians 4:1-16 (NIV)

I will do my part to be given for the church so we grow and build ourselves up in Christ's love.

MY NOTES:



STAY CONNECTED:

Download the Westside Leavenworth App in your App Store or visit westsideleavenworth.com

WAYS TO GIVE:

Westside Leavenworth App (on your app store) westsideleavenworth.com/give
text "WestsideLV" to (833) 254-5174



TEACHING SUMMARY:

Everyone who calls upon Jesus as Lord and Savior receives the gift of the Holy Spirit and through the Holy Spirit receives gifts that are meant to build up the Body of Christ and impact the world for good.

Have you ever thought about you being a gift to the Body of Christ? God has gifted you, if you have received Him as Lord, with gifts of eternal importance.

We are gifted to build up the Body of Christ and through our obedience make it look more and more like Jesus. This is our universal call and each of us also have been given a personal, unique calling that we were created to fulfill.

These are big concepts to understand but with faith in the working of God in and through us we do our part to grow and build each other up in God's love as we mature.

TALK IT OVER:

How does it feel to hear that you are created for eternal impact? Do you see yourself that way? Why or why not?

What would you like to see God do through you?

Have you submitted to God's leadership in every area of your life? If not what is keeping you from doing so?

What is one next step you can take today?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Day 1: John 14:15-18; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Day 2: 1 Peter 4:10-11; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-6

Day 3: 2 Corinthians 12:6-10; Colossians 1:9-12

Day 4: 1 Timothy 1:12-16; 2 Timothy 4:16-18

Day 5: Hebrews 13:20-21

Day 6: Matthew 28:18-20