

THE GROWTH OF THE CHURCH—GOD’S WAY

I. THE GROWTH OF THE CHURCH—GOD’S WAY (Eph. 4:7-16)

A. The PRINCIPLES

1. Church growth begins with _____ and God’s _____. (4:7)

2. Church growth involves Christ giving _____ of His Word to His Church. (4:8-11)

3. Church growth requires that the communicators of God’s truth concentrate on the _____ of the saints via sound _____. (4:12a)

4. Church growth necessitates that the equipped saints _____ the _____ of the _____. (4:12b)

5. Church growth is to result in the church being built up qualitatively through _____ and normally quantitatively through _____. (4:12c)

6. Church growth manifests itself with reaching such spiritual objectives such as...
 - a. corporate _____ unity and personal _____ of Christ (4:13a)
 - b. full _____ maturity (4:13b)
 - c. spiritual _____ and _____ (4:14)

7. Church growth has its primary means of believers _____ the _____ in _____. (4:15a)

8. Church growth has its ultimate Authority and Resource, the _____ (4:15b-16)

B. PRACTICAL APPLICATION

1. Since church growth begins with the grace of Christ (Eph. 4:7) and ends with the power of Christ (4:16), we need to resist _____ armbar tactics or _____
_____ to motivate and accomplish divine objectives.
2. If the gifted men are to equip the saints through teaching the Word of God, they need to be _____ of God's Word. (2 Tim. 2:15)
3. In order to have the freedom to devote his time to study, the congregation must recognize this and _____ the pastor's time by relieving him of _____ duties.
4. If the saints are equipped to do the work of the ministry, they must avail themselves to face to face teaching on a _____— unless they are being _____ and _____ themselves, they will run out of spiritual gas in serving the Lord.
5. The objective in equipping the saints is not to get people busy, but to let God _____ to minister as the need arises; this may be in an _____ or _____ capacity.
6. When considering someone for a particular ministry, we look for _____ people (*faithful, available, and teachable*), who are _____ and _____ in that area.
7. Remember that the key to the _____ (ministry) is the _____ (fellowship with the Lord); otherwise we will have a church full of people simply getting things done in their flesh. (Luke 10:38-42)
8. Since the _____ of the church and the _____ of Christ are the primary objectives, measure any potential ministry or change by asking, "*Will God be glorified and will the church be edified by this?*"