

Going Deeper

Ephesians 4:11-16 (NLT)

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11 Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers.

12 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. **13** This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-16 (NLT)

14 Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. **15** Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

Ephesians 4:11-16 (NLT)

16 He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. †

Going Deeper

Ephesians 4:11-16

What Does Toleration Do?

- It makes the church more
worldly

What Does Toleration Do?

- It makes the church more worldly
- It makes the church *less doctrinal*

What Does Toleration Do?

- It makes the church less doctrinal
- It makes the church less confident in the Scriptures

What Does Toleration Do?

- It makes the church less confident in the Scriptures
- It weakens the power of the Cross

What Does Toleration Do?

- It weakens the power of the Cross
- It leads to the world loving
the church

What Does Toleration Do?

- It leads to the world loving the church
- It will cause a church to become hungry for worldly things

What Does Toleration Do?

- It will cause a church to become hungry for worldly things
- It *minimizes* sin

What Does Toleration Do?

- It minimizes sin
- It reduces the great *call* that God has for *holiness*.

What Does Toleration Do?

- It reduces the great call that God has for holiness
- It places an emphasis on material rather than spiritual goals

Going Deeper

Ephesians 4:11-16

1. The Lord knows the needs, the trials, and the temptations of His church.

Hebrews 2:17-18 (NLT)

17 Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people.

18 Since he himself has gone through suffering and testing, he is able to help us when we are being tested. †

Revelation 1:13-15 (NLT)

13 And standing in the middle of the lampstands was someone like the Son of Man. He was wearing a long robe with a gold sash across his chest. **14** His head and his hair were white like wool, as white as snow. And his eyes were like flames of fire.

15 His feet were like polished bronze refined in a furnace, and his voice thundered like mighty ocean waves. †

1. The Lord knows the needs, the trials, and the temptations of His church.

2. Nothing misses his *gaze* or can be *hidden* *from* his eyes.

2. Nothing misses his gaze or can be hidden from his eyes.

3. No amount of disguise will cover sin.

Going Deeper

Ephesians 4:11-16

WE MUST

- Identify the problem

Identify the Problem

Deeper and deeper I sink into the mire; I can't find a foothold. I am in deep water, and the floods overwhelm me. †

Psalm 69:2 (NLT)

WE MUST

- Identify the problem
- Trust in the Savior

Trust in the Savior

Rescue me from the mud; don't let me sink any deeper! Save me from those who hate me, and pull me from these deep waters. †

Psalm 69:14 (NLT)

WE MUST

- Identify the problem
- Trust in the Savior
- Give ourselves completely to Jesus

Give Ourselves Completely to Jesus

Because of the weakness of your human nature, I am using the illustration of slavery to help you understand all this. Previously, you let yourselves be slaves to impurity and lawlessness, which led ever deeper into sin. Now you must give yourselves to be slaves to righteous living so that you will become holy. †

Romans 6:19 (NLT)

WE MUST

- Identify the problem
- Trust in the Savior
- Give ourselves completely to Jesus
- Follow His direction to “Go Deeper”

Follow His Direction to “Go Deeper”

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Now go out where it is deeper, and let down your nets to catch some fish.” †

Luke 5:4 (NLT)

Going Deeper

Ephesians 4:11-16