

Identity Encounter

Encounter God – our Identity

Shared (Children of God), *Individual*

(Ep 2:10) ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Design of Church

(Ep 4:11-16) ¹¹And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ¹⁴that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, ¹⁵but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

Leaders - Equip Believers to Serve

- Build Up the Church Body

Goals - Unity of Faith

- Knowledge of Jesus (2 Pe 1:3-4)

- Fullness of Christ (Eph 3:19)

Contrast - easily misled children

- grow up through Truth into Christ

Results - Connected Body by Recognition/Appreciation Need Each Member

ex: Alberto discipler/gatherer story

Danger: Arguing (Division)

John Mark (Acts 15:37-40)

Who was right, Evangelist or Encourager? (2 Tim 4:11)

- Effectiveness by every Member Doing it's Part (community impact)

- Growth in Atmosphere of Encouragement and Love

Church Defined from Dual Perspective

Leaders: Vision – this is what we're doing

Members: Tactics – this is what we have to work with

ex: Rachel with Youth (Phlm 1:6)

Principle: Freedom to Own your ministry within constraints of our Vision.

ex: Laura – healing room

I don't want to tell you what to do. (Discovering Your Destiny, prophetic encouragement)

If you don't get your individual identity from God, you'll lack faith/confidence to pursue it.

I don't want you to tell me what the church needs to do. (input is ok)

You're the church; tell me how to help you do it. You can't delegate passion.

Imperative: For the church to be effective you must get your part from God and do it.

Ps 24:1, Col 1:16 No Separation of Holy/Secular. It's all holy.

Don't limit your thinking to the church.