



PART 3&4: *One* WITH THE
WORLD AND CHURCH
WEEK 13: YOU ARE A GIFT

WARM UP: What is the greatest gift you've ever been given?

1. Read Ephesians 4:7-10. Christ won a great victory through the cross and then ascended beyond the heavens as a mighty conqueror, distributing the spoils of war. Who (or what) did Christ defeat? And what did he capture from his enemies?
2. Read Ephesians 4:11-13. Describe each gift in v11 in your own words. From v12-13, what is Christ's purpose in distributing these gifts to the church?
3. Read Ephesians 4:14-16. These verses make it clear that what Paul primarily has in mind is knowledge, understanding and teaching. Why does "truth" matter so much? In what ways do the gifts in v11 contribute to God's people holding fast to the truth?
4. Do you have a "mature" understanding of the truth? Are you confident you can distinguish truth from error? Are there "teachings" that weaken and cause you to doubt your faith? What can you do about this? Who can you turn to?
5. Verses 15 and 16 both mention "in love". In his sermon, David talked about "truth without love" as immaturity, and "love without truth" as immaturity. Do you agree? Give examples.
6. Each of the five people-gifts mentioned in v11 would probably have a different approach to "speaking the truth in love". Brainstorm (or role play!) what this might look like.

PRAY: For each other, to be the gift God has made you to be.