

082618 Growth Group Study

Participation in God's Work: Ministry Fair Sunday



1. Discussion around most recent sermon

- a. **Date:** 08/26/18
- b. **Series:** Solo Message
- c. **Title:** Participation in God's Work
- d. **Text:** Eph 4:11-16
- e. **Preacher:** Joel Taylor

f. **Sermon Text: Ephesians 4:11-16**

11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until 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. 14 Then 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. 15 Instead, 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. 16 From 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.

g. Specific discussion questions from the sermon

NOTE TO LEADERS: For this week, I (Shawn) would like to add a cautionary note. Many of these questions could lead to guilt within your people. That is not the purpose. The purpose is simply to dig into what it means to participate as a committed church-goer. Please try to be sensitive to how you ask the questions. Thanks!

1. What is the purpose of church? Is participation in church a “requirement” of being a Christian? Why or why not?
2. How do you view participation in church activities and why? Some options might be life-giving, burdensome, inviting, tiresome, unending, etc.
3. Do you tend to think that ministry in church is only for the “professionals” or do you agree that the work of the professionals is to “equip his people for works of service (Eph 4:11-12)?” Why or why not?
4. How much time do you typically have each week to participate in church activities? Another way to ask it in general terms: In our busy world, what can typically be expected of congregants regarding church participation?
5. Which church activities do you typically participate in?
6. If time/money were not issues, where would you participate more in church activities?
7. Agree or disagree? “Our behavior matches our values.” Why or why not?

h. Reference Texts / Books

1. Joel’s sermon from 10/1/17