

## ***“THE POWER OF UNITY”***

*Ephesians 4:11-13 – “<sup>11</sup> And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; <sup>12</sup> for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: <sup>13</sup> Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”*



[\[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN!\]](#)

**In the first three chapters, Paul reminds the Ephesian church that they are children of God! In the fourth chapter, he is saying, “Now act like it.” Throughout the rest of the book, he spells out the detail on the conduct or “walk”, expected of those so richly blessed. Let’s see why it is so important to be unified in the Body of Christ and what that unity looks like in the modern-day church!**

**All gifts were given to the body to operate in a Spirit of Unity to:**

### **1. PERFECT THE SAINTS!**

**The Holy Spirit didn’t give all gifts to all men! We are many members but one body! The church is ONE body, obeys ONE spirit, lives in the light of ONE hope, proclaims ONE faith, receives members through ONE baptism, and believes in ONE God. It takes all gifts that God has given, working together in unity, to be effective in the Body of Christ! No one person can do everything. Spiritual gifts are at the heart of Christ’s strategy for building His church. These gifts were given for the perfecting/equipping of the saints.**

### **2. WORK THE MINISTRY! (Work of the Church)**

**This refers to acts of services. It is not the task of the Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor and Teacher to do all the work of the ministry. Their task is to prepare God’s people for works of service. When believers are equipped and people accept the adventure of ministering to others, then the whole body is built up, matured, strengthened, and flourishes. The work of the church is always outside of the four walls – Outreach! Which simply means “Reaching Out!” - feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, taking clothes to those who are outdoors, sharing the love of God with those who may never ever step foot into your local church. Put your skills and creativity to work so that those in the community will know you, will respect you and will appreciate you because you are not judgmental and opinionated, but you are more than willing to get into the trenches and help meet the needs of others through the Power of Unity!**

### **3. EDIFY THE BODY!**

**To “edify” means to instruct or benefit, especially morally or spiritually; to uplift! You have been equipped to illuminate the love of God through your Christian walk, to improve situations where humanly possible, to inspire those who are hopeless, to instruct those who desire to grow spiritually, to refine and cultivate those with spiritual gifts and to uplift and build up those who are helpless and have not yet discovered their true value and worth in Christ! That means that whether you are at the church or not, you are always a representative of the God that you serve! Diverse gifts create and build up ONE body in unity. This unity is in faith and the knowledge of Christ. The church’s goal is that each member and thus the entire church will show to the world all the attributes and qualities of Christ. Then the church will truly be the one body of Christ. This, People of God, is the Power of Unity!**

***BBlessed!***

**Abounding Love Bible Ministry © 2017**