



# HANDOUT

## Lesson 5: Ephesians 3:14-4:16

THE BOOK OF

# EPHESIANS

### DISCUSS

**What comments or stories struck you from this video? Did anything shine a new light on the biblical material?**

**How can we “live a life worthy of our calling” as Paul mentions in the beginning of chapter four? How does he describe that worthy life?**

**J.D. made a big deal about growing up. How do the qualities we mentioned display a mature faith?**

**Take another look at verses 4–6. Why do you think Paul emphasizes “oneness” so much?**

**In light of contention in the church, how does a conversation about the gifts of the Spirit promote unity? Would people brag about their own gifts? Why or why not?**

**According to 4:7–13, Who gives spiritual gifts? Who gets spiritual gifts? What are some of the spiritual gifts? What is the purpose of spiritual gifts?**

### LIVE IT OUT

#### *Setup*

In your small groups, you'll have several questions to answer about yourself, your background, your abilities, and what you care about. Each person should answer each group of questions before the next person responds. Then go around the circle again with the second and third groups of questions. Feel free to ask follow-up questions as you go and affirm responses. But be careful not to contradict what someone is saying. If anyone feels uncomfortable answering, they may pass.

#### *The Questions*

##### **Group 1**

**A. What is something you do—in your work, at home, or at church—that you seem to be pretty good at?**

**B. When did you first notice that you had that ability?**

**C. Have you gotten better at that area of expertise through the years?**

##### **Group 2**

**A. What is something you're really passionate about?**

**B. When did you recognize that passion for the first time?**

**C. Has the passion grown stronger, or changed in some way?**

##### **Group 3**

**A. Think about a time when someone thanked you for something you did or mentioned that you were helpful to them. What action were they talking about?**

**B. When did this happen? Has it happened often?**

**C. Is there a way you could do that type of action (the thing someone appreciated) on a regular basis, or even more intentionally than you do now?**

**According to Ephesians 4:12–13, why has God given us these abilities and responsibilities? What is their purpose?**

**Now as you think about the questions you've been considering about yourself—those abilities and passions God has given you—how can you use your gifts for the purposes mentioned in 4:12–13?**



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## LIVE IT OUT

**Prayer:** Talk with God about the gifts He has given you. Ask Him to confirm your thinking, or to adjust it as necessary. Ask Him for opportunities to use your gifts in His service. In these prayers, spend more time listening than talking.

**Conversation:** Talk with other close friends about your gifts. Ask them to confirm the abilities you think God has given you, and they may even suggest ways to use them. You need some cheerleaders around for support, but also talk with someone who can challenge you—“speaking the truth in love” (Ephesians 4:15).

**Volunteer:** Look for a new way to use the abilities God has given you. Volunteer for an appropriate ministry in the church.

**Peacemaking:** Unity is a strong emphasis in this part of Ephesians. Even though we have different strengths, we have a common Lord. Take some time to think through your relationships—especially those with other believers. Are there any broken, tense, competitive, or difficult relationships? How could you promote a Christ-centered unity with these people?

**Calligraphy:** Write out the prayer of Ephesians 3:14–21 and post it where you will see it often. (But ask permission before spray-painting it on a church wall.)