

Questions for Consideration—*With the Master In Heavenly Places*

Lesson 11 — The Structure and Purpose of the Body of Christ — Ephesians 4:7-16

1. (a) Read Ephesians 4:7-16 and write down the gifts that God gave to the leaders of the church. (b) According to the text, what are the reasons that God gave them these gifts?

2. Memorize Ephesians 4:7.

3. (a) Paul mentions in this passage that God gave gifts to men, especially in this passage to the leaders of the church (see verse 11). What are the other spiritual gifts that are mentioned in Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-30; 1 Peter 4:9-11? (b) Do you know what your spiritual gifts are, and are you using them for the edification of the body? (c) If not, why not? (d) If you are using your gifts, are you sharpening them so that you might serve God with excellence?

4. (a) According to the following passages, what should be our response to doctrine that is not sound, or to those who are teaching doctrine that is not sound? Romans 16:17,18; Galatians 1:6-8; Colossians 2:4-9; 1 Timothy 4:6-8; Hebrews 13:9; 2 Peter 2:1-3; 1 John 4:1-2. (b) What might happen if we listen to false doctrine, according to what Paul says in Ephesians 4:14? (c) Are you in a church that teaches truth? Do you listen to teachers that teach sound doctrine? Do you read books that teach the truth?

5. What do you think Paul means in Ephesians 4:8-10?

6. (a) Would you say that you are growing up as a child of God (see verse 15), or are you still walking around in your “spiritual diapers,” as one man puts it? (b) What things do you need to change so that you might grow and mature in your walk with Christ?

7. Write a prayer request for the leaders of your church, especially focusing on their service to the body according to Ephesians 4:12-15.