



Purley Baptist Church

Discipleship Guide 11th October 2020

The Community of the Kingdom of Heaven (6): Truth and Love

Ephesians 4:1-16

This Week's BIG IDEA: Christian community is a place where the communication is marked by these two words: love and truth. Each time we speak as Christians into that community, we speak in truth and love and build it up, or we contribute to tearing it down. In this community truths are not to be hurled around as we wish but used with wisdom and love to build the body up. The goal as Paul describes is true unity in the body, where people are growing in maturity in the faith and knowledge of Jesus.

CONNECT IN: Here's an ice breaker question you might want to use this week

- What was your favourite toy or activity growing up?

CONNECT UP: Fix your eyes on God and give him an opportunity to speak to you through his Word

Starter... Have you been in a situation where you knew 'the truth would hurt'? How did you deal with it?

Read the passage

1. Sometimes people refer to new Christians or baby Christians and mature Christians. What do these terms mean? What does it mean to be a mature Christian?
 - i) Will we ever be completely mature? Why or why not?
2. (V11-13) How do the roles of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers fit into making us mature? Does that inform our interaction with and submission to church leadership?
3. (V14-15) Why is so important to have an emphasis on truth in the church and what are the consequences of letting this slip?
4. Why do you think Paul mentions that we should bear with one another in Love, speak the truth in love, and build up the church in love? Why do you

think he repeated this?

i) Is there a difference between speaking truth and speaking the truth in love? Have you experienced this?

CONNECT OUT as a group to serve the world around you

- Consider the person or people in your life who are hard to bear with. Ask God to change your heart toward this person or people.
- Please pray for wisdom for the church reaching out at this time, particularly the online services that the Lord might use them powerfully reach people with the truth and love of Jesus