

# THE *Big 3*

EPISODE: 150

TITLE: This is Why Your Church Isn't Growing and Maturing

A vital part of the answer to a renewed ministry in the church, one capable of matching the challenges we face, is found in Eph.4:1-16. *Every time* the explicit teaching of the text has been taken seriously and properly integrated into the life of God's people, history has been in the making.

Here are three key things to believe and consider when reading and applying Ephesians 4:1-16.

1. **Ephesians 4 and APEST is not just a leadership passage**; it is for every believer. If you are a Christian, you are part of the Church. The church is people, and Jesus has apportioned out various gifts to the church through his people. Not special leaders or only the "anointed ones". YOU are a gift to your church! Do you know if you are gifted as an apostle, prophet, evangelist, shepherd/pastor, or teacher? Take the survey for free at the link below.
2. **Falling deeper in love with Jesus and understanding his heart, life, and mission** is key to everything that leads to maturity and unity. Just reading Ephesians 4 and trying to apply Jesus' gifts and Paul's teaching academically is completely missing the point! Jesus did not give his living, breathing, and Spirit-empowered gifts to fill up Sunday services. He desires that we would all reach the same fullness in life—all for life—that he experienced with his Father!
3. **We need to believe that the church, your family, your city, and all of this world need you to embrace your full identity in Christ** and the gifts that he has given you and made you to be in the world. We will never see the whole world filled with his glory (the eternal purpose of God) unless and until we learn and embrace the authority and privilege we have been given AND act within and share these gifts with not only the church, but the world.

**Is it time to get started *really* embracing all 5 of the gifts Jesus gave his Church for unity, maturity, and fullness?**

**[Take the Free five-fold survey here.](#)**

And as a team, this resource will get you started: **[The Permanent Revolution Playbook.](#)**

Thanks for listening...we'll see you in the next episode!

Caesar & Heath

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