

ANARCHY NO MORE

Ephesians 4:7-16

I. The exalted Christ *provides* His church with servants of the Word (vv. 7-11).

II. The exalted Christ *perfects* His church through servants of the Word (vv. 12-16).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. Does the unity of the church mean that every member looks exactly the same? What does Paul mean when he speaks of Christ giving different grace to different believers?
2. What is the psalmist praising God for in Psalm 68, and how does Jesus in His humiliation and exaltation ultimately fulfill this psalm?
3. Can you explain what the distinct gifts of apostles, prophets, evangelists, and shepherd-teachers are? What do they all have in common? Does Christ still give all of these gifts today?
4. What is the difference between ruling elders and teaching elders? Do ruling elders still teach? Why, or why not?
5. How does the ministry of the word through elders equip every member in the body to serve with their unique gifts and opportunities?
6. Are we to serve only in deed, or also in word?
7. What happens when through the word-ministry of elders, every member is working properly? Why should this make us grateful to be Presbyterians?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. If someone asked me, "What does it mean to be presbyterian?", how would I respond?
2. As a member of Christ's body, am I working properly, using my Christ-given abilities and opportunities to serve others in both word and deed?
3. Do I tend to view service in the church only in a formal way? How does this text challenge me to think of service more broadly, relationally, and organically?