



## **Building An Army**

*Ephesians 4:11-16*

*Sermon Notes*

Sunday, March 1, 2020

*Operation: Increase Sermon Series*

### **1. The Process**

- It is the will of God that the church grows spiritually and numerically. He desires that members mature in their faith.
- The Holy Spirit has given a strategy of how this growth is to take place.
- One of the ways in which growth happens and members mature is through the appointment of godly leaders.
- The leaders of the church put the church in a position to succeed.
- The church will not grow on its own; it needs leadership to help bring it to the point of growth.

### **2. The Roles (Reference Scriptures: Ephesians 1:22, 23; 2:20; 2 Timothy 4:2; Romans 10:14; Titus 1:5; 1 Peter 5:1-5; Acts 20:28, 29)**

- Jesus is the head of the church. He has put in place roles of giftedness to lead and guide the church.
- These are roles and not titles.
- The function of the role of apostle and prophet ended at the completion of the apostolic age (end of the 1st century).
- The roles for every generation are the evangelist, pastor/shepherd, and teacher.
- The evangelist is one who announces and proclaims the good news of Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and salvation.
- An evangelist is a living missionary who preaches, reproves, rebukes, and exhorts with complete patience and teaching.
- The evangelist is charged with setting the church in order. The evangelist appoints elders and deacons.
- The words pastor, shepherd, elder, and bishop are synonymous with one another in the Bible.
- The pastors shepherd the church, tend to them, and guide them.
- They are charged with taking care of the members and are accountable for them. They are to show them how to live while standing firm against false teaching.
- The role of teaching is linked to every role listed before in Paul's list.

### **3. The Reason (Reference Scriptures: Matthew 28:19, 20)**

- These roles are given to equip the members for the work of ministry and to build them up in maturity.
- The ultimate work of the church is to make disciples.
- The leaders are to bring the church to the point of completion.
- The church is “complete” when it moves with one mind, one faith, one mission, behind one King. Leaders are to bring the church to the point where it moves and lives like Jesus.
- The end goal of the evangelist and shepherd is to help the church become so mature that it no longer “needs” the leader.

### **4. Setting Up for Growth**

- The leaders should set the church up for growth.
- The church should be equipped to the point where its function is understood within the overall body.
- Every member has a job to do!
- When everyone does their job, the church wins and Jesus is exalted!

**Your Challenge to Obey:** Pray that God would reveal your area of giftedness and that He would provide the opportunity for you to use it for His glory.