

**Pastor Joseph Zwanziger**  
**Ephesians Part 10—5-Fold Ministry**  
**3.21.2021**

**USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

**[Ephesians 4:1-3, ESV]**

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

**[Ephesians 4:4-6]**

<sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

**[Ephesians 4:7-16, NIV]**

But to each one of us grace has been **given as Christ apportioned it.** <sup>8</sup> This is why it says:

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“When he ascended on high, he took many captives and **gave gifts to his people.**”

<sup>9</sup> (What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? <sup>10</sup> He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) <sup>11</sup> So **Christ himself gave** the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

<sup>14</sup> Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup> Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. <sup>16</sup> From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

## **1) The “Five-Fold Ministry” - Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers –Are Gifts to the Church**

**[Ephesians 4:11-16]**

**So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers**

<sup>12</sup> to **equip his people** for works of service,

**“so that the body of Christ may be built up**

**[Ephesians 2:19, 22, NIV]**

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household. <sup>22</sup> And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

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## **The 5-Fold Ministry:**

**Apostles** - pastors of pastors, launch new churches

**Prophets** - those who speak the messages of God to His people; bring encouragement, comfort, direction and correction when needed

**Evangelists** - special grace to communicate the message of Salvation; remind us it's all about people

**Pastors** / Shepherds - unfortunately, we are all metaphorically sheep. Pastors feed, gather, protect, lead, and guide. Without pastors, you will run off a cliff, get eaten by a wolf, or any other kind of calamity. Pastors are a GIFT.

**Teachers** - not simply those who teach, but like it was said of Jesus – those who teach with authority. Without teachers, the battles we win are not sustained through poor doctrine.

### **[1 Peter 5:2-3, NIV]**

Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; <sup>3</sup> not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

### **[James 3:1]**

Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

### **[2 Corinthians 5:10]**

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

***When we keep in mind how we are to care for people, it changes things.***

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## [Ephesians 4:12-16]

<sup>12</sup>...so that the **body of Christ may be built up** <sup>13</sup> until we all **reach unity in the faith** and in the **knowledge of the Son of God** and **become mature**, attaining to the whole measure of the **fullness of Christ**.

<sup>14</sup> Then we will **no longer be infants, tossed back and forth** by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup> Instead, speaking the truth in love, **we will grow to become** in every respect **the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ**. <sup>16</sup> From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

## 2) Get under covering, Get to Work, Be in Unity, Run after Christ, and Build Up Others in Love

### [1 Peter 5:5]

In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders.

### [Ephesians 5:21]

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

### [Ephesians 6:5]

Obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ.

### [1 Timothy 5:17]

The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.

***Give 5-Fold ministers the ability to be the gift that they are meant to be.***

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## FOR MONDAY—

1. Intentionally honor someone in your sphere, recognizing their influence and role in your life.
2. Get under spiritual covering and get to work. Identify your spot on the discipleship path and take the next step.

## TALK IT THROUGH

1. What are some gifts or treasured items that you value? How have you displayed, preserved, or protected them?
2. When have you worked on a home or office project that required the help of a tradesman? What was your experience? What did you own versus what did you need outside expertise for?
3. Who are some people that you turn to in your personal life for their expertise?
4. Why do you think current culture easily seeps into our lives and seems to attack authority figures and structures? How do you or your family promote a culture of honor?
5. What is the significance of 5-Fold Leadership? What are the individual roles, and yet why are the 5-Fold ministers intended to function together?
6. What is the job description or overall goal of 5-Fold ministers, according to Ephesians 4:12? How can you identify a counterfeit?
7. Who represents spiritual covering for you? What kind of communication and relationship do you have? How does that bring life to you?
8. What does spiritual covering provide? In what areas of your life do you need this? Where can you submit more of your life to spiritual covering? Who can you invite to God's house, so that they can gain this?