

5. **To Mend, Repair, Or Restore** – to restore to good or sound condition, to renew, to make good, to remedy, to bring back, to reestablish, to bring back to normal condition, to put back to a former place, to reconstruct

- Galatians 6:1, NIV – *(1) Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently.*
- Titus 3:5, NIV – *(5) ... He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.*

6. **To Perfect** – to bring to completion, to make faultless, to bring nearer to perfection, to improve, to make fully skilled

- James 1:27, NIV – *(27) Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.*

7. **To Make United** – to make into a single whole or unit, to cause to adhere, to be in a state of mutual sympathy, opinion or attitude, to combine, to join together, to come into agreement, to be in a shared condition

- 1 Corinthians 1:10, NIV – *(10) I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought.*
- Colossians 3:14, NIV – *(14) And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

SUMMARY

- An equipping church teaches practical skills on:
 1. How to walk in the core realities of the Kingdom of God
 2. How to minister the goodness of God in every situation,
 3. How to use the full resources of Christ
 4. How to skillfully use the word of God for transformation
 5. How to minister restoration to others
 6. How to resist temptation
 7. How to walk in love
- However, our goal is not just to learn useful skills, but our goal must always be, to become more like Christ
- Ephesians 4:15, NIV – *(15) ... speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.*

S.H.E.A.R. FORCE

Part 5 – The Equipping Church – A

David Hibbert / 2010-11-07 / www.destinychurch.ca / (450) 676-6944

REVIEW – SHEAR FORCE

- Save the lost, heal the saved, equip the healed, activate the equipped, and release the activated
- SHEAR FORCE (physics) is an internal force in an object, caused by an external force acting perpendicular to the object, which tends to cause the material to change shape.
- God is the external force in our lives, who wants to come inside of us through the Holy Spirit, to work against our own tendencies, and cause us to change.

THE EQUIPPING MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

Ephesians 4:11-15, NIV – *(11) It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, (12) to prepare [equip] God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up (13) 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. (14) 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 men in their deceitful scheming. (15) Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.*

1. Who Equips? – Verse 11-12a

- a) The Five-Fold Equipping Ministry - Verse 11-12a – *(11) It was he [Jesus] who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers (12) to prepare [equip] God's people ...*
- b) The Three-Fold Leadership Ministry - 1 Corinthians 12:28, NIV – *(28) And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, **then** workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others [ministry of helps], those with gifts of administration ...*
- c) The Confirming Ministries – 1 Corinthians 12:28, NIV - *then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing*

- d) The Supporting Ministries – 1 Corinthians 12:28, NIV - *those able to help others [ministry of helps], those with gifts of administration*

2. The Short-Term Goal Of Equipping – Verse 12a

- Verse 12a – (12) *To prepare God's people for works of service ...*
- Ephesians 2:10, NIV – (10) *For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

3. The Long-Term Goals Of Equipping – Verse 12b-13

- a) Edification – Verse 12b – (12) *... so that the body of Christ may be built up [or edified] ...*
- b) United faith – Verse 13a – (13) *until we all reach unity in the faith*
- c) United knowledge of Christ – Verse 13b – (13) *and in the knowledge of the Son of God.*
- d) Maturity / Christlikeness – Verse 13c – (13) *and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

4. The End Result Of Equipping – Verse 14-15

- a) Stability – Safe From Bad Things – Verse 14 – (14) *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 men in their deceitful scheming.*
- b) Maturity In All Things – Verse 15 – (15) *Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.*

UNDERSTANDING THE PROCESS OF EQUIPPING

- “Equip” = katartismos (Greek) = “a preparing, an equipping, a completing, a fitting”
- From “kata” = “down, against, according to” + “artios” = “fitted, completed”
- So “katartismos” = “made or completed according to a certain fit”
- Romans 12:2, Philippians – (2) *Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould, but let God re-mould your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all his demands and moves towards the goal of true maturity.*

- “Equip” (verb) = “katartizo_”
- Translated as: to make complete, to prepare, to equip, to fully train, to mend, repair or restore, to perfect, to make united

- To Equip Is:

1. **To Complete** – to make whole or entire, to make perfect, to add or finish what was lacking

- James 1:4, NIV – (4) *Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.*

2. **To Prepare** – to put in proper condition or readiness, to put things into a state of readiness (with the proper tools and skills necessary to adequately do a good job)

- Titus 3:1, NIV – (1) *Remind the people ... to be ready to do whatever is good.*

- Acts 10:38, NIV – (38) *... Jesus ... went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil ...*

3. **To Equip** – to furnish or provide the necessary resources for whatever is needed for an undertaking

- Ephesians 1:3, NIV – (3) *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing [resource] in Christ.*

4. **To Fully Train** – to develop or form the habits, thoughts and behaviours necessary by discipline and instruction, to make proficient, to make fit

- Hebrews 4:12, NIV – (12) *For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

- Ephesians 5:26, NIV – (26) *... cleansing ... by the washing with water through the word.*