



**Wes Moore**

Middle School Ministries

Ephesians 4:1-16

Page 828

**Be the Church:**

Nourishing Your  
Relationship with

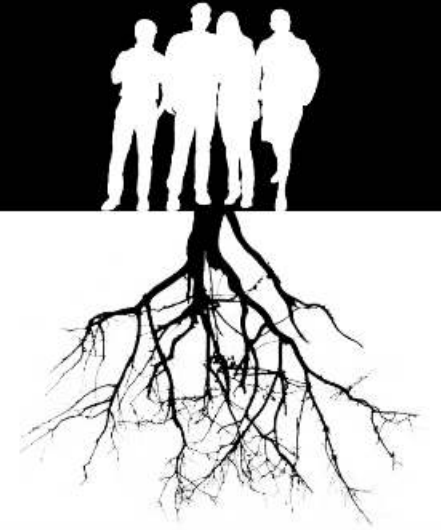
Those That Are His

# Rooted

Nourishing Life's  
Most Important Relationships

# Rooted

Nourishing Life's Most Important Relationships

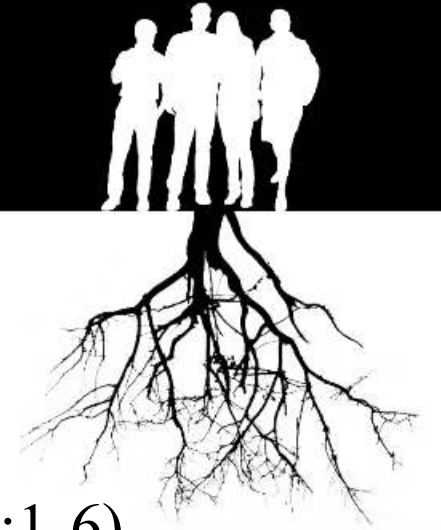


## **What is the Church?**

- The Church is a *body* (Ephesians 1-3)
  - Jesus is the head
  - Believers are the rest of the body
  - All parts of the body are held together by love

# Rooted

Nourishing Life's Most Important Relationships



**How can we nourish our relationship with those who are part of the Body of Christ?**

**1. PREPARE your life for the Body of Christ (4:1-6)**

- Assume internal attitudes of humility, gentleness, and patience (4:2)

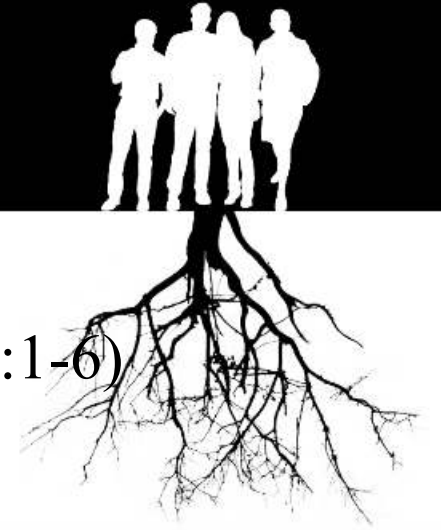
*Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love (NLT 4:2b)*

- Diligently pursue unity through God's Holy Spirit (4:3)
- Remember God's character (4:4-6)

**How do you prepare for Church?**

# Rooted

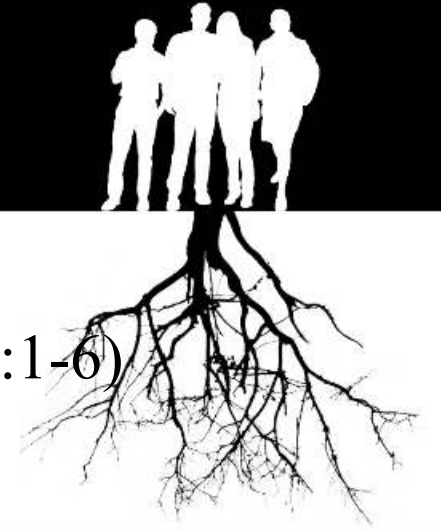
Nourishing Life's Most Important Relationships



1. **PREPARE your life for the Body of Christ** (4:1-6)
2. **PROVIDE your gifts for ministry** (4:7-12)
  - What are YOUR gifts from God?  
Skills...passions...personality traits...circumstances...
  - What spiritual enemies were defeated by Jesus' death on the cross?  
Pride... doubt...fear...anger...bitterness...jealousy...gossip...

# Rooted

Nourishing Life's Most Important Relationships



1. **PREPARE your life for the Body of Christ** (4:1-6)
2. **PROVIDE your gifts for ministry** (4:7-12)

Question:

What keeps people from providing their gifts for ministry?

- YOU are the expert!

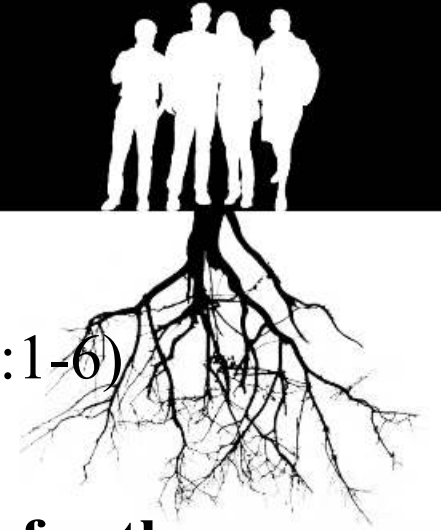
Question:

What happens if I DON'T provide my gifts for ministry?

- Remember, the Church is a body!
- The result of *all* of us providing our gifts for ministry is growth, not burnout

# Rooted

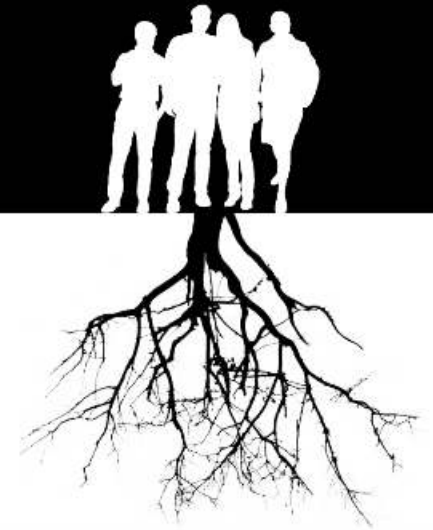
Nourishing Life's Most Important Relationships



1. **PREPARE your life for the Body of Christ** (4:1-6)
2. **PROVIDE your gifts for ministry** (4:7-12)
3. **GROWTH is the result of preparing your life for the Body and providing your gifts for ministry** (4:13-16)
  - Growth in unity and spiritual maturity (4:13)
  - Growth in stability and protection from false teaching (4:14)
  - Growth together—the fullness of Christ (4:13b, 4:15-16)

# Rooted

Nourishing Life's Most Important Relationships



**PREPARE** your life for the body...

**PROVIDE** your gifts for ministry...

**GROW** together...

*Be the Church.*