

The Gift-Giver

Ephesians 4:7-13

➤ Who is the central figure? _____

➤ What is Jesus doing? _____

➤ To whom is Jesus giving gifts?

- Recipient #1 – _____ believers
"to each one" (7)

- God gives _____ to accomplish what he called me to do.

A picture of the powerful Gift-Giver – Psalm 68

Parallel #1 – Just as God is in the midst of the battle in Psalm 68,
Jesus entered into the midst of the battle through the
_____.

Parallel #2 – Just as God in Psalm 68 ascended in victory over His enemies,
Jesus ascended beyond the heavens to fill
_____!

Parallel #3 – Just as God shared with His armies the gifts He received;
Jesus gives various gifts to His people so that they
_____.

- Recipients #2 – the _____
"the saints" and "the body of Christ" (12)

- God gives specific people to fill _____ for the sake of the church.

➤ Why did Jesus give these people?

- A _____ – Leaders equip so all saints serve building up the body being unified and matured in the process.

➤ **The Result?**

- Maturity on a _____

“Paul wants the church as a unified whole, to grow in maturity...to become more like Christ himself in all of his completeness.”
Clinton Arnold

So what difference does this text make?

- I can be thankful that Jesus loves his church and gives them unity.
- I can be thankful that Jesus gives me the gift of grace to do what he has called me to do.
- I can be thankful that Jesus provides leadership for his church so I can serve others and mature with them.
- I can embrace my role as part of the building up of the body and recognize that my church needs me.
- In what areas do I need reminded of Jesus empowering grace in my life?
- In what ways I am I pursuing being equipped?
- How can I continually be overwhelmed that the “measure of the fullness of Christ” is a promise?