

## *Sermon Notes*

### *Themes from Ephesians*

“Finally -- Adulthood” – Ephesians 4:14-16

#### I. Introduction

##### A. What is the purpose of the church?

1. Missionary emphasis?
2. World social concern?
3. Fortress of protection?

##### B. Paul’s view.

1. Ultimately the purpose is for God’s glory.
2. Yet, in this specific letter to Ephesus, Paul is arguing that the church is where the people of God grow into w\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Ephesians 4:11-13; Ephesians 4:14-16
  - b. There is a strong admonition to grow \_\_\_\_\_!
  - c. Two significant phrases.
    1. Unity of the faith, verse 13.
    2. Knowledge of the Son of God, verse 13.

#### II. Exposition

##### A. Growing in truth, verse 14.

1. Note contrast between children and adults.
  - a. Children are easily deceived.
  - b. Teaching gifts, previously listed in verse 11, are provided to encourage growth.
2. “Tossed here and there by waves.”
  - a. Experientially, Paul knew what it was like.

Acts 17:13,14,17-20

b. Believers must not oscillate.

#### 3. Hendrickson

a. Following the teaching and instructing to others is paramount (Matthew 28:19-20).

#### 4. “Trickery”

a. From the Greek word *kubeia* and derived from *kubos* meaning cube. A reference to dice. Deceitful people often loaded dice to achieve the numbers they desired.

#### B. Verse 15

1. Maturity comes with spiritual discernment.

- a. MacArthur
- b. Barclay

2. Illustration – The basket and links of a chain.

#### C. Verse 16

1. The term “body” harks back to verse 12.
2. The parts of the body work in h\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Note importance of staying close to the head (Jesus).

Colossians 2:19.

#### III. Points for Reflection

- A. Adulthood is achieved by immersing yourself in God’s Word.
- B. Growing up is not an option for the Christian.
- C. Finally, love for God and the Christian body must become a bias within our lives.