



# KINGDOM CULTURE

## A Culture of Ministry

### Small Group Discussion Notes

Start off with feedback from Sunday's message. What did those that were there - or those that have caught up online - take away from it? What encouraged them, what informed them and what challenged them? Spend some time discussing the response to the message and the issues that it raised.

Read Ephesians 4.1-16

**11** So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, **12** to equip his 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 people in their deceitful scheming. **15** 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. **16** 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.

- Jesus gives the church gifts so that all his people can be equipped for service (literally, ministry). Go through each of these 'gifts' in turn - apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. What exactly does each gift equip us for? How's that working out for you so far?
- Someone once said that the church is like a football match: 22 people who really don't need the exercise are passively watched by 22,000 who really do. Agree or disagree? What would it look like if we all engaged in ministry?
- v13. Is it possible to become mature or to reach unity without actively being involved in works of service? Why?
- v16. 'as each part does its work'. Do you feel like you're playing your part? In what areas of service and ministry would you like to develop over the next few months?

Pray together that God would develop areas of ministry and service in our lives. Pray that we would be less like spectators and more like players. Pray for those we recognise are given as gifts to help equip and encourage us. Pray for the maturity and unity of the whole body.