



## Gifts from the Ascended Christ

14<sup>th</sup> in the “Ephesians” Series

Ephesians 4:7-10

May 17, 2026

Pastor Mickey Klink

### Introduction

In this passage, we learn how the ascended Christ assigns ministry gifts to the church for the work of the gospel.

Because of his ascension, the exalted and triumphant Jesus shares the spoils of his victory with the church in the form of ministry gifts.

- 1) Christ has given to each one of us an assigned set of gifts for the good and unity of the church (v. 7).

*charis* (grace) —————> *charisma* (spiritual gift)

Romans 12:6-8: <sup>6</sup> *We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;* <sup>7</sup> *if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach;* <sup>8</sup> *if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.*

- 2) The gifts assigned to the church are given by the ascended Christ who rules the whole universe (vv. 8-10).

Pastoral Exhortation:

### Response

May the ascended Christ rule our hearts and our hands on this Ascension Sunday!

## Sunday Text Questions

Ephesians 4:7-10

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Read the text aloud and discuss any significant observations or issues that need clarification together.

- 1) What gifts for ministry has the Lord given to you, and how do you use them at Hope Church?
  
- 2) Why is it important for the church to know that Christ has given gifts for ministry “to each one of us” (v. 7)? How do the different gifts work together like a symphony in a local church?
  
- 3) Why is it important for you to know that Christ has given you gifts for ministry? Since your gifts have been given to you specifically by Christ, how must you be faithful in your use of them?
  
- 4) Read Romans 12:6-8. While this list of ministry gifts is not comprehensive, which of the gifts match what Christ has given to you? How are each of the gifts important for the church? Note: “prophecy” can mean forthtelling or discernment.
  
- 5) Beyond the strangeness of the language in vv. 8-10, what is the connection between the ascension of Christ and his giving of ministry gifts to Christians in the church?
  
- 6) Why is the ascension of Christ significant for your Christian life and for the unity of the church?
  
- 7) Spend some time in prayer asking the Lord to help you know your ministry gifts, be committed to using them, and find ways to utilize them at Hope Church.

**Further study this week:** Passages related to the message of this week’s text: John 3:13 (Mon); John 7:33-39 (Tues); John 14:12-14 (Wed); Mark 16:15-20 (Thurs); Luke 24:36-53 (Fri).