

➤ **A UNITED church**

- **United around a way of life**
- **United in a new spiritual family**

➤ **A SERVING church**

APOSTLES extend the gospel. PROPHETS know God's will. EVANGELISTS recruit.
PASTORS nurture and protect. TEACHERS understand and explain.

➤ **A MATURE church**

Ephesians 4:13

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.

a) Becoming more like Jesus

"Ultimately, each church will be evaluated by only one thing – its disciples. Your church is only as good as her disciples. It does not matter how good your praise, preaching, programs, or property are; if your disciples are passive, needy, consumeristic, and not radically obedient, your church is not good." – Neil Cole

b) Theologically grounded

Ephesians 4:14

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.

deceitful scheming = systemized error in sophisticated form

Moralistic Therapeutic Deism (MTD)

"The moralistic perspective is we're here to be good people and to try to do good...The therapeutic aspect is everything is supposed to be geared to making me feel good about myself, ultimately to make me happy. Deism is the idea that God created the world but has no direct involvement in it. Basically, according to MTD, there is a distant God who just wants everyone to be nice, and the purpose of life is to be happy. American 'Christians' who have adopted this philosophy have... elevate[d] personal definitions of right and wrong above any objective standard of truth." – George Barna

c) Relational truthing

Ephesians 4:15

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

speaking the truth in love = truthing



"You know you've made God in your own image when it turns out God hates all the same people you do." – Anne Lamott

truth without love = judgment

love without truth = insincere

"Nothing could be more cruel than the lenience which abandons others to their sin. And nothing could be more compassionate than the severe reprimand which calls another Christian in one's community back from the path of sin." – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

If you spend any length of time in the Eagle Church family, it's my prayer that you would say...

I experienced God there.

I was really loved there.

I was formed into the image of Jesus there.

I was equipped & empowered there.

I was sent by God on mission there.