

*Sermon Questions for Life Groups*

***Building Believers by the Book***

***Pastor Deric Bartlett – Eph. 4:11-16***

**Sunday, October 1, 2017**

*These questions are generated by several authors for Life Group discussions  
or family or personal devotions*

1. What struck you about the work of Laura Bonney in Uganda? How does it encourage you?
2. Read Ephesians 4:1-16. The point of the passage and Paul's instruction is in verse 16. What are the three goals spelled out in this verse? How does the instruction in the rest of the passage (verses 1-16) show how each of these three points can be achieved?
3. Read also Eph. 2:19-22. In terms of maturing and maintaining unity, what must believers be doing?
4. Alongside Eph. 4:8, Pastor Deric referenced Psalms 68:18. How might these two passages give us a 'complete' description for Christ, our conquering King? Finally, how does this depiction give us confidence in the power of the gospel message? (also see Colossians 2:15)
5. If God has given West Highland our leaders as a gift, how ought we to respond to and interact with them?
6. What are some of the key characteristics of a "servant leader" in the church and in the home? Pastor Deric quoted FEB Chairman Lance Johnson in this definition of a leader – "A Leader is a credible person who can alter one's thought, feelings or actions in a manner that enlists others to pursue the accomplishment of a common goal." Discuss and share your opinions on this definition.
7. "The gift we need is leaders". Identify ways that West Highland can encourage the development of young leaders to lead the future church, both at home and beyond. Then discuss what role you and your group can take in making this happen.

8. We were reminded that the church is just not a place that waits for people to show up to hear the Gospel, but rather it's a body that goes out and shares the Good News. Share how you are meeting this challenge of fulfilling the direction of Matthew 28:16-20. If not currently involved, what steps are you taking to become involved in the future?
  
9. Read Matthew 28:19-20; What is disciple-making and how does one know when he or she becomes a disciple?
  
10. In God's plan to build up the church, every believer should be "All In" when it comes to making disciples, and that there is "no retirement" from this responsibility. How can we be "All In" when we are leading very busy lives with work, children, responsibilities, etc.? Should our priorities change when we are retired?
  
11. In one of Pastor Deric's final comments, he mentioned that we need to learn doctrine and put that doctrine into practice. What doctrinal lessons have you learned recently and how might you plan to implement those lessons into your life?
  
12. Pastor Deric said that the core elements of church life are (1) family, (2) unity, and (3) love. Is it possible for you to rate our church and yourself on a scale of 1 to 10 in these areas? How do you/we measure up?