

**Batteries ARE Included:  
But, Some Assembly Required**  
Pastor Joseph Garlington Jr. / Sunday October 15, 2017

*God designed The Church to function as a unified community of spiritually gifted, ethnically diverse men and women, loving and serving one another, in humility, availability and submission; thereby presenting to the world, a compelling case for trusting Jesus Christ alone for salvation*  
—James Ryle

**Assembly:**

- a gathering for a particular purpose
- a mechanical combination of various simple or complex parts
- a governmental or educational group
- a military objective to bring order or rally troops

*Psalms 133:1–3 (NASB) : 1Behold, how good and how pleasant it is, For brothers to dwell together in unity! 2It is like the precious oil upon the head, Coming down upon the beard, Even Aaron’s beard, Coming down upon the edge of his robes. 3It is like the dew of Hermon, Coming down upon the mountains of Zion; For there the LORD commanded the blessing-life forever.*

*Ephesians 2:19–22 (NASB) : So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God’s household, 20having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, 21in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, 22in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.*

**Here’s what we are:**

- We are fellow citizens a person who lives in
- God’s household
- We are the whole building (Fitted together with Jesus as the cornerstone)
- We are a holy temple
- We are a dwelling of God in the Spirit

**We need the 5-Fold gifts to fulfill our purpose**

*Ephesians 4:7–8 (NASB) : 7But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift. 8Therefore it says, “WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVE A HOST OF CAPTIVES, AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN.”*

*Ephesians 4:11–13 (NASB) : And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; 13until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.*

Apostles govern us  
Prophets guide us  
Evangelists gather us  
Pastors guard us  
Teachers ground us in the word

The function of 5 Fold Gifts is building up of the body of Christ



**Romans 12:3–6 (NASB)** : *For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith. 4For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, 5so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith;*

To each one of us God has given gifts in measure

A measure is increased by faith... it can be refined or enhanced

*Humility does not mean you think less of yourself... humility means you think of yourself less.*  
–Ken Blanchard

Don't despise your gifts

Your blessing is tied to your gifts, that's why God gave them to you!

**1 Corinthians 12:21 (NASB)** : *And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."*

**For Want of A Nail**

For the want of a nail, the shoe was lost.  
For the want of a shoe, the horse was lost.  
For the want of a horse, the rider was lost.  
For the want of a rider, the message was lost.  
For want of a message, the battle was lost.  
For want of the battle, the kingdom was lost.  
All for the loss of a horseshoe nail.

**Hebrews 10:23–25 (NASB)** : *Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; 24and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.*

The place of commanded blessing

**Hebrews 12:22–24 (NASB)** : *But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, 23to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.*

The Assembly protects us from falling away

**Making God Known through Relating, Discipling and Educating**

- **Relating:** spending quality time with one another.
- **Discipling:** training people to be authentic followers of Jesus.
- **Educating:** teaching kingdom principles to ourselves and our children.