

## Attaining YOUR Full Potential in Christ

### **Ephesians 4:11-16 (NIV)**

<sup>11</sup> It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> 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 men in their deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup> Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. <sup>16</sup> 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.

### 1. Keep Changing

#### **Colossians 2:6-7 (NIV)**

<sup>6</sup> So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

**Challenge and Application: Ask Yourself: What is Still Changing in Me?**

### 2. Exercise your FREEDOM wisely

#### **Scripture:**

<sup>13</sup> It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows. Galatians 5:13 (MSG)

**Challenge and Application: Take an inventory of your activities.**

### 3. Consider the SOURCE

... "If you continue in My word, you really are My disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32 (HCSB)

Study this Book of the Law continually. Meditate on it day and night so you may be sure to obey all that is written in it. Only then will you succeed.

Joshua 1:8 (NLT)

**Challenge and Application: Read the Bible in One Year (See resources in program) and take the class "How to Study the Bible"**

### 4. Go Deeper with God

#### **Ephesians 1:17-19 (GW)**

<sup>17</sup> I pray that the glorious Father, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, would give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know Christ better. <sup>18</sup> Then you will have deeper insight. You will know the confidence that he calls you to have and the glorious wealth that God's people will inherit. <sup>19</sup> You will also know the unlimited greatness of his power as it works with might and strength for us, the believers.

#### **Challenge and Application:**

**Create space for God: Be Attentive to His Presence: Look at your calendar – are you TOO busy?**

**Join a Growth Group in 40 Days of Love.**

CSLewis said it takes a community to know an individual.

*One person's description of you is not as complete as a whole table of friends.*

*How much more would this be true of Jesus Christ? We can't "get to know Jesus better" by ourselves. You must be deeply involved in the church, in Christian community, with strong relationships of love and accountability. Only if you are part of a community of believers seeking to resemble, serve, and love Jesus will you ever get to know him and grow into his likeness.*

**Read Ephesians 4:11-16 (NIV) again.**