

24-0407a - Detailed Summary

24-0407a - *Equipping the Saints*, Scott Reynolds

Bible Readers: Mike Mathis and Roger Raines

This detailed summary by ChatGPT

See the sermon notes: [Sermon Notes HTML](#) - [Sermon Notes PDF](#)

(Sermon Notes by Scott Reynolds)

Equipping the Saints

Summary of Transcript (0:03 - 26:30)

Scripture Readings: (0:03 - 2:13)

1st Scripture Reading, Mike Mathis

- Reading from Ephesians 4:11-14 about the roles of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers for equipping the saints.
- The focus is on the need for unity, knowledge of the Son of God, and maturity in Christ to avoid being swayed by false doctrines.

2nd Scripture Reading, Roger Raines

- Another reading of Ephesians 4:15-16 emphasizes speaking the truth in love, and the unity and growth of the body of Christ.

Sermon

Preacher: Scott Reynolds

1. (2:18 - 6:12) Reflection on Past Teachings at Westside

- Speaker reflects on the church's experience since COVID, noting a decrease in attendance but an increase in teaching and learning from scriptures.
- Lists numerous topics and studies from sermons and classes at the church, including Romans, Hebrews, Christian apologetics, and various biblical figures and themes.
- Highlights that these teachings have equipped the church with a lot of knowledge to share with others.

2. (6:12 - 6:18) Knowledge and Offering

- Speaker asserts that the congregation has a wealth of knowledge to offer the lost, based on their extensive biblical teachings.

3. (6:19 - 7:57) **The Amalgamation of Ephesians 4:11-16**

- Speaker prepares to read Ephesians 4:11-16 from a mix of translations (NKJV, ESV, NASB, and NIV), calling it an "amalgamation."
- Brief anecdote about the term "amalgamation" and its use in dentistry.

4. (7:58 - 9:59) **Equipping of the Saints**

- Ephesians 4:11-13 explains that leaders in the church (apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds, teachers) are given to equip the saints for service and ministry.
- Emphasizes the importance of preparing the saints to fulfill their roles within the body of Christ.
- Saints are responsible for building up the body of Christ with the guidance of church leaders.

5. (9:59 - 13:47) **Service and Ministry**

- Discusses the role of preaching in ministry, citing David Lipscomb and J.W. Shepherd, who distinguish between serving and preaching in the Greek language.
- Examines the idea that leadership equips the saints for ministry, but not everyone is expected to become an evangelist.
- Quotes 1 Corinthians 3:9-13, explaining that the foundation of the church is laid by apostles and prophets, and believers build on it.

6. (13:48 - 14:11) **Foundation of the Church**

- Saints are not to build a new foundation but continue building on the one established by Jesus and the apostles.
- Everything built will be tested by fire to reveal its true nature.

7. (14:13 - 23:36) **Christ as the Cornerstone**

- Ephesians 2:17-22 is discussed, highlighting that Jesus is the cornerstone of the church's foundation, with the apostles and prophets laying the groundwork.
- Emphasizes that saints must align themselves with Jesus to avoid being misaligned.
- Suggests that many current studies focus on foundational teachings, but upcoming studies like "The Truth Project" and "The Engagement Project" aim to build upon this foundation.

8. (23:37 - 26:30) **Spiritual Maturity and Growth**

- Ephesians 4:14-16 emphasizes the need for Christians to grow in maturity, avoiding being easily swayed by false doctrines.
- Speaker explains that maturing in faith requires effort, and Christians should aim to look like Jesus by conforming to His image.
- Mature Christians are less likely to be influenced by cultural and societal trends.

- Leadership equips the saints to grow the church, and when each part works together, the body grows in love.
- The invitation to follow Jesus is extended to the congregation.