Class #14



Heaven on Earth

Ephesians 4:14-16

Q: Does becoming a Christian make your life easier?

Q: How does a Christian become mature?

Eph. 4:11-16

"so that we may **no longer be children**, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, **speaking the truth in love**, we are to **grow up in every way into him who is the head**, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, **joined and held together by every joint** with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." **(ESV)**

Q: What does Paul mean when he says he doesn't want us to be children any longer? (vs. 14)

- Compare this verse with what Paul said in 1Cor. 14:20 and James 3:13-18.
- Q: Paul is painting a word picture in verse 14 of a boat full of babies on the open seas, which is bad enough because of the waves, but now it's getting blown off course winds of doctrine and human schemes. Why is Paul painting this picture for us?
- Q: Why does Paul follow his picture of babies on a boat with a command for us to be "speaking the truth in love"? (vs. 15)
- Q: Why does Paul say the body of Christ is held together by "every joint"? (vs. 16)

What About You?

Q: How has your thinking changed since you became a Christian?

- Do you think about the way you talk differently?
- Do you think about relationships differently?
- Do you think about "common sense" differently?

Q: Can you think of a time when you experienced "truthing" from a brother or sister?

- How did it feel?
- Did it help you grow or create resentment?

Q: What do you need to do in order for you be "truthing in love"?