**“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”**

**(The Church and You)**

**Ephesians 4:11-16**

**How Does the Church Function**

1. **The *Design* of the Church! (11-12)**
2. **The *Direction* of the Church! (v.13)**
3. **The *Diversity* of the Church! (14-16)**

**Dimensions of Body Life:**

1. **The church grows *Deeper* through *Equipping.* (v.12)**
2. **The church grows *Stronger* through Participation(12-13)**
3. **The church grows *Unified* through *Experience* (v.13)**
4. **The church grows *Fruitful* through *Lordship* (15-16)**

**What are Your Responsibilities in the Church**

* **The word church (GK. Ekklesia) means an assembly.**
* **The Universal Church: refers to all saved throughout the world (Matt. 16:18)**
* **The Local Church refers to a particular location or township. (Rev. 2-3)**

1. **We should join ourselves to the local church! (Acts 9:26-28 & Heb. 10:24-25)**
2. **We should cooperate with Leaders! (Acts 20:17, 28 & 1Thess. 5:12-13)**
3. **We should contribute regularly to the work of the church.**

**The work of the church is divided into three areas:**

1. **Evangelism: (Matt. 28:19-20)**
2. **Edification: Eph. 4:11-16)**
3. **Benevolence: (1Tim. 5:16)**
4. **We should do our part in the work of the church! (Eph. 4:16 & Romans 12:3-8)**
5. **We should keep the church United! (John 17:20-21 & 1 Cor. 1:10)**
   1. **Be peacemakers when there is a disagreement (Matt 5:9)**
   2. **Avoid gossip! (1Tim. 5:13)**
   3. **Avoid speculative questions (1Tim. 6:3-5)**