

THIS IS US**Upward**
**Inward**
**Outward****MAIN TAKEAWAY**

Edification is the way Jesus builds His church. It happens inside of us when we submit to God and allow Him to conform us into the image of Christ. Edification exists for glorification—we are built up so that God is lifted up!


INTRODUCTION

In the second part of this series, Pastor Jonathan shared about our *inward* focus of edification. Jesus is building His church, and we all play a part—we are equipped for the work of ministry and are built up in the body of Christ. We edify by speaking the truth in love and serving one another.

Just as a compromised foundation can cause a tower to lean, what may cause spiritual instability? What is the Christian's foundation for faith (Matthew 7:24-27)?


Pastor Jonathan said, "God's design isn't that we stand tall in our own strength, but that we are built up together on the foundation of Christ." How have you experienced spiritual strength by being part of Jesus' church?

UNDERSTANDING***READ EPHESIANS 4:11-16***

 **Edification is Jesus' Blueprint (v.11-12). Why did Jesus give leaders to the church? Who do they equip, and for what purpose?**

What does it mean for Jesus to be the cornerstone (Isaiah 28:16)? What is His method for building His church (Ephesians 2:20-22)?

In what ways does our edification lead to God's glorification?

 **Edification Produces Maturity (v.13-14).** Describe the contrast between mature and immature believers. What difference does edification make for spiritual growth?

How does edification produce discernment, stability, and resilience? Share some examples of the “winds” of false teaching and cultural lies blowing around today.

Longevity doesn’t equal maturity. How can we prevent prolonged spiritual infancy?

 **Edification Requires Every Member’s Contribution (v.15-16).** Why is edification essential for everyone? What may happen if some do not participate?

What is the motivation and goal of speaking the truth in love (1 Peter 3:15)? Why must you have both truth and love? Why is this balance so important in our culture?

Don’t just show up—build up. What is the difference between church consumers and contributors? How can you intentionally build up other believers?

APPLICATION


Edification is not optional—it is essential. How can you tell if you are doing your part in building up the body of Christ? How are you pursuing edification (Romans 14:19)?

How are you equipped for the work of ministry? How can you grow in serving the Lord?

How do you experience God’s power and glory in the church (Ephesians 3:20-21)?

This is us! How did this message give you a greater appreciation of Christ’s church?

PRAYER

 Give thanks that Jesus is the cornerstone and His church is our family. Pray that you will be equipped for ministry and edified in community. Pray for spiritual maturity in discernment, stability, and resilience. Pray that our church and your small group will continue to be edified!