

## **Why we have Adult Bible Fellowships and Bible Studies**

(Part 4 of 8 – God’s Glory in the Church)

Speaker: Jim Engelman

### **I. God’s Plan for Believers**

- A. The Big Picture from Eternity Past to Eternity Future – (our position in Christ)
  - Ephesians 1:4-5 – He chose us in eternity past to be holy and blameless before Him
  - Ephesians 1:6, 7; 2:8-9 – He saved us by His grace in Christ
  - Ephesians 1:9-10; 2:7 – He has made known His will for us in Christ for all eternity
  
- B. Our Growth in Sanctification – (our condition)
  - Ephesians 1:17-23 – Our resource for change (growth) is in Christ
  - Ephesians 2:10 – God expects us to grow to be like Christ and allow Him to work through us
  - Ephesians 2:11-22 – The removal of prejudices in the church because of Christ
  - Ephesians 4:1 – We are to “walk worthy” of our position in Christ

### **II. God Matures Us through the Church**

- A. Maturity comes through the study of God’s Word
  - Ephesians 4:11-12 – God uses teachers, He enables to train and equip all believers
  - Ephesians 4:13 – The goal is to be unified in doctrine and grow in character to be like Christ
  - Ephesians 4:14 – Immaturity and error are corrected
  
- B. Maturity comes through the interaction of the body
  - Ephesians 4:15-16 – every individual is to grow and minister

### **III. Developing “Forms” that Accomplish the Biblical “Function”**