



"Speaking the truth in love" A 'Covenant' for Working Together

"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love."

Ephesians 4:11-16

Speaking...

- We will *communicate directly* to each other using the first person
- We will ask questions for *clarification* in order to *confirm* that we have understood correctly and ask others to do the same

the truth...

- We will be as *honest* as we can with each other
- We will strive together to understand and speak from *factual information*, rather than leaping to conclusions based on assumptions or speculation

in love...

- We will speak to each other with *respect*
- We will *affirm the merit* in another person's idea or concern before we note its weaknesses
- We will *listen to understand* one another's point of view, but don't necessarily have to agree

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