



**The Truth About Being Prepared  
(Ready, Growing, and Strong)**

**January 23, 2022**

**Scripture for the Series (Ephesians 4:25)**

- 25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. (NIV)

**Text: Ephesians 6:15-16**

- 15 and with your feet **fitted with the readiness** that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up **the shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

**Big Question:** Were you ready for what you are now facing in your world?

**Side Question:** Why were you not prepared for the issues you face?

**Question: Who was responsible to prepare you and make sure you were ready for life?**

- A. Your parents (Ephesians 6:4)
- B. Your pastors and spiritual leaders (Ephesians 4:11-12)
- C. Your personal responsibility (2 Peter 3:17-18)

**I. Your Parents Responsibilities  
(They Train and Instruct You)**

Ephesians 6:4: Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the **training and instruction** of the Lord.

**II. Your Pastors and Spiritual Leaders Responsibilities  
(They Prepare You for Service)**

Ephesians 4:11-12 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> **to prepare God's people for works of service**, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. (NIV)



**III. Your Personal Responsibilities for Your Growth  
(You Prepare Yourself to Grow)  
(2 Peter 3:17-18)**

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, **be on your guard so that you may not be carried away** by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. <sup>18</sup> **But grow in the grace and knowledge** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

**Next Time:** The Truth About Our Mental State

**Big Question:** How do you really think?

**Read Ahead:** Ephesians 6:17