

THE CHURCH AS THE 'PERFECT MALE':
EPHESIANS 4:13 AND THE UNITY OF THE BODY OF CHRIST
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"Introducing the *Perfect Male*" – Ephesians 4:11-13

There is a Spirit-driven intuition among believers that the Lord's people are to live in harmony with one another as the church. And yet, in a number of ways, the church has always struggled to be truly united. In Ephesians 4:1-16, Paul offers hope by explaining the dynamics of unity in the church using the unique metaphor of the *perfect male*. Who is the *perfect male* that Paul mentions in this text?

1. To what does the *perfect male* refer?
 - a. Not to Christ, but to the body of Christ, His church.

 - b. Not to the individuals in the church, but to the church as a whole.

 - c. Not to what the church will be on earth, but to what the church will be in glory.

2. What does the image of the *perfect male* say about the church?

3. What does it mean for the church to become a *perfect male*?