

BE THE CHURCH

Ephesians



Ephesians →

UNITY

Last Week's Principle

The church is *relationally* unified in the love of Jesus, but genuine *functional* unity is not guaranteed. It requires unending growth in learning about and relationally experiencing the love of Jesus, through the empowering Holy Spirit, if the Church is to demonstrate God's greatness to the world.

Ephesians 4:1-6

¹ I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:1-3

¹ I therefore,

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urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,

Ephesians 1:3-3:21. ^{1:3} Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing...¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe... ^{2:1} And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked... ⁴ But God ... ⁵ made us alive together with Christ... ¹⁹ you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God...

Ephesians 4:1-3

¹ I therefore,
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Response

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| a prisoner for the Lord,

urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,

² with all humility and gentleness,

Posture

with patience,

bearing with one another in love,

³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Humility *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament, Zodhiates*

The proper view of myself as I consider my sin in light of God's great grace, Jesus' great sacrifice, and my unworthiness to receive his forgiveness, yet he granted it anyway.

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Gentleness *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament, Zodhiates*

It is a grace of the soul born out of proper wrestling with God during life circumstances. It's a condition of mind and heart, not in weakness, but in power. It is a balance born in strength of character.

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Patience *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament, Zodhiates*

Forbearance, long-suffering, self-restraint **before** proceeding to action.
The quality of a person who is able to avenge himself yet refrains from doing.

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Bearing with one another *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament, Zodhiates*

Being patience in regard to the errors or weaknesses of others.

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Eager *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament, Zodhiates*

To make every effort to do one's best, to be diligent

Ephesians 4:4-6

4 There is one body and one Spirit—

| just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—

5 one Lord,

| one faith,

| one baptism,

6 one God and Father of all,

| who is over all and through all and in all.

Reason

Ephesians 4:4-6

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Reason

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UNITY

Principle

In light of the gospel and all it provides, believers in the Church are called to live in such a way that displays who they are: knitted together by ONE Spirit in ONE body of Jesus under ONE loving Father.

Next Week

Ephesians 4:7-16