

THE WORTHY WALK OF THE BELIEVER

(Ephesians 4:1-6)

I. INTRODUCTION (1:1-2)

II. THE BELIEVER'S POSITION IN CHRIST (1:3-3:21)

III. THE BELIEVER'S PRACTICE IN CHURCH, PERSONAL, AND DOMESTIC LIFE (4:1-6:9)

A. Unity in the Body of Christ (4:1-16)

1. Maintaining the Unity (vv. 1-6)

- a. After focusing on the believer's spiritual _____ (chap. 1), and the _____ of Jews and Gentiles in one Body (chaps 2-3), Paul now makes practical _____ of those doctrines in the believer's spiritual _____ (chaps 4-6).

- b. In light of what Paul just taught, and the unspeakable debt of gratitude that each believer owes- Christian _____ that was _____ or consistent with this Christian doctrine was their personal _____. (v. 1)

- c. As believers learn together, serve together, and worship together, there are certain characteristics that are necessary in maintaining the unity in these relationships...
 - 1) "*lowliness*" (v. 2a)
In the Greek, this speaks of _____, a lowliness of mind; i.e., having the _____ estimation of yourself. (John 13:12-14; Philip. 2:5-8)

 - 2) "*gentleness*" (v. 2b)
This word describes a mild _____; it comes from an inward grace of the soul and a _____ towards the Lord. Matt. 11:28-29; James 1:21)

 - 3) "*longsuffering*" (v. 2c)
In the original this word describes _____, a _____ before proceeding to action. (James 5:10-11; Rom. 2:4; Col. 1:10-11; 2 Tim. 4:2)

 - 4) "*bearing with one another in love*" (v. 2d)
This word means to _____, to bear up, to _____ with others in agape. (Gal. 6:1-3; Col. 3:12-13)

5) *“endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit”* (v. 3a)

This implies putting forth a great deal of _____ in making this happen; to be very _____ in striving for this unity in the church.

6) *“in the bond of peace”* (v. 3b)

In the Greek this word *“bond”* was used of tendons or ligaments in the body; the Lord wants us _____ together in a spirit of _____. (Col. 3:15)

d. Paul listed the seven elements of unity centered on the three Persons of the Trinity, which provide the basis for the unity among believers (vv. 4-6) ...

1) There is one unified BODY: It is called the Universal Church, or the _____ of Christ. (v. 4a)

2) There is one HOLY SPIRIT: He _____ us and empowers us in the Christian life. (v. 4b)

3) There is one HOPE: All believers share in this hope at the moment of salvation, that they will _____ all _____ with God. (v. 4c)

4) There is one LORD: A reference to the Lord Jesus Christ who _____ for us and _____ for us. (v. 5a)

5) There is one FAITH: All believers have this in common, we were saved by _____ alone, through _____ alone, in _____ alone. (v. 5b)

6) There is one BAPTISM: This Spirit baptism takes place at the very _____ a person _____ Christ as Savior; there are no exceptions. (v. 5c)

7) There is one GOD and FATHER of all: He is the Supreme Ruler who is _____ believers and God is _____ all believers. (v. 6)