

A Ministry Glow-Up

Making It Less Awkward and More Awesome

Ephesians 4:1-3

- I. Make the Bride of Christ the main character.
 - A. Live in a way that compels people to the Gospel (v. 1).
 - 1. Jesus should be the stumbling block and not our behavior (1 Peter 2:12).
 - 2. Aim to let people stumble over Jesus and nothing else.
 - B. Serve with complete humility and gentleness (v. 2a).
 - 1. Jesus exemplified humility and gentleness in his ministry (Jn. 12:13-16).
 - 2. Aim to elevate others above ourselves.
 - C. Be patient (v. 2b).
 - 1. God is perfectly patient with us while he works toward our redemption (2 Pet. 3:9).
 - 2. Make room for God's redemptive work in the lives of others.
 - D. Make room for those who are different (v. 2c).
 - 1. God comprised the church with unique parts (1 Cor. 12:4-6).
 - 2. Stretch to make room for others who are different.
 - E. Stick together (v. 3).
 - 1. Jesus died to bring together what sin had broken apart (Eph. 2:14-16).
 - 2. Bond through Gospel connections instead of performance, projects, programs, people and preferences.
- II. Don't be the main character (Die to yourself).
 - A. Jesus died for his bride (John 12:23-24).
 - B. Jesus calls his disciples to die to themselves (John 12:25-26).