

Route 66 Ephesians 4

Pastor Jonathan Velasquez September 13, 2023

Ephesians 4:1

"As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received."

- -Paul is encouraging us as one who has experience.
- -What does it mean to live a life worthy?

Ephesians 4:2-3

"Be **completely** humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

- -Why would we do this?
- -Why not just live how we want?

Ephesians 4:4-6

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

- -In what ways do you see people NOT unified?
- -What would it change if we submitted to God & understood the power of ONE/UNITY?

Ephesians 4:7-13

"But to each one of us grace has been given as **Christ apportioned it.** This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people."

(What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers (For What Purpose?), to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 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.

- -Why does it matter that Christ Ascended/Descended?
- -What is the purpose of leaders in the church? Verse 12
- -What is the purpose of our gifts & talents?

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1 Peter 4:10

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

-What happens if we live this way? (As the body of Christ, the way he intended it.)

-What would happen if the Church was the Church?

Ephesians 4:14-16

"Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

Do you know you play a part in accomplishing HIS work? You have a purpose and a Place in Jesus' Design! The Spirit has gifted you to build up the body of Christ!

YOU ARE IMPORTANT, LOVED & WANTED.

LET'S LET OTHERS KNOW THAT THEY ARE TOO!!!

The Church grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.