

Faith Baptist Church

Sermon Notes - Sunday, August 1st, 2021

Walking Worthy of Our Calling

Ephesians 4:1-16

Main Idea:

After three chapters on the greatness of God's grace in unifying us as "one new person" (2:15), the body of Christ, the last half of the book argues for how we are to walk worthy of our Christian calling. The manner of living that God expects of this unified body, based in the triune God Himself, is to display humble attitudes and forbearing actions of love, and to minister our spiritual gifts as equipped by God-given leaders. The purpose is to grow all the members of the church to a stable and growing body of Christ.

The context of the Ephesian epistle

1. Paul's previous contacts: Acts 18:18-21, (24-28); 19:1-41; 20:15-38
(note how the entire province of Asia heard the word: Acts 19:10)
2. Challenges of Ephesus: religious, racial, spiritual, commercial, political
3. Paul's present imprisonment: Acts 28:30-31; Eph 3:1, 13; 4:1; 6:21-22

Some characteristics of the Book of Ephesians

1. The unity book
2. The trinity book
3. The love book

The hinge of the epistle (Eph 4:1-3)

Therefore

I, the prisoner of the Lord,

urge you to walk

in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, . . .

**We are called to reflect _____ by forbearing one another
through _____ to preserve the _____ of God's unity. vs. 1-6**

**We are called to _____ unity by _____ the
body of Christ, _____ by gifted leaders, so that we all may
specifically _____ Christ in His full _____ in collective
_____. vs. 7-13**

**We are called to _____ beyond spiritual childhood (lest we
be _____ by false teachers) to be Christ's _____
working body, by being truthful in acts of _____. vs. 14-16**

For Personal Reflection:

Ephesians is Paul's "unity book." His repeated use of "in Christ" or "in Him" show our Lord to be the person or the sphere where the unity is achieved. How do you see unity reflected in these passages of Ephesians? 2:13-18; 4:4-6; 4:3, 13; 4:7,16.

Ephesians is known as Paul's Trinitarian letter. What do you learn about the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in these eight passages of Ephesians? 1:4-14; 1:17; 2:18; 2:22; 3:4-5; 3:14-17; 4:4-6; 5:18-20.

Ephesians emphasizes the church as the body of Christ. What do these passages contribute to this image? 1:22-23; 2:16; 4:4, 12, 16; 5:23, 30.

In what way have you shown your Christian brother or sister attitudes of humility and gentleness? Of patience or long-suffering? 4:2
Who has been a great example to you of these virtues?

We have all been given a spiritual gift (4:7) for the purpose of serving in the body of Christ (4:12). How are you exercising your gift at FBC?