

Dear Church (Part 8)
“All in One” [Eph. 4:1-10]
Pastor Bill Bowers
June 18, 2017

Sermon Notes & Outline

Scripture Today: Ephesians 4:1-6

EXAMPLES OF A “HINGE”

- Romans 12:1-2; Galatians 5:1; Colossians 3:1

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF EPHESIANS

- CHAPTER 1 What God has done for us in Christ
- CHAPTER 2 What Christ has done for us
- CHAPTER 3 What the mystery means to us
- CHAPTER 4 Walk of the believer
- CHAPTER 5 Life of the imitator
- CHAPTER 6 Strategy of the warrior

What Does “Walk the Walk” look like? (v 2)

- HUMBLENESS
- GENTLENESS
- PATIENCE
- TOLERANCE
- LOVE!

John RW STOTT Calls these the “five foundation stones of Christian unity.”

HUMILITY

- Christ first
- Others second
- Self third

Matthew 11:28-30

GENTLENESS

- Strength under control.

PATIENCE AND TOLERANCE

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HomeGroup and Personal Study Questions

- Ephesians chapter four begins with the apostle "begging" believers to "live a life worthy of your calling." How do you interpret this big "ask?" Do you think a worthy life is something that is or can be clearly defined? Can you give examples of what you would describe as a life worthy of your calling?
- Is it possible that Paul provides a definition for us to understand what a life worthy of your calling is? In verses 2-3 he instructs, "Be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for their faults. Make every effort to keep yourselves united in spirit." If this can serve as our definition of a life worthy... how do you measure up? Do you recognize these characteristics illustrated and/or defined from other passages of Scripture? Compare (Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, Colossians 3:12-17)
- Why do you think the apostle Paul places such a high emphasis on unity? How do you think disunity affects the Church? How do you think disunity affects families, friends, and how the world perceives the message of Jesus? How are you living in unity with others? Are there relationships that could use your attention? What do you plan to do in order to place a similar emphasis on your responsibility within the context of creating unity?
- Pastor Bill quoted John RW Stott, saying, "Humility puts Christ first, others second, and myself third." How would you respond to that quote? Where would you describe yourself on the growth scale of 1-10 with regard to humility? What will you need to do in order to advance to your next degree on the humility scale?
- In verse seven the apostle Paul states that, " He (God) has given each of us a special gift through the generosity of Christ" What do you think this means? Do you have a special gift that you received from Christ Jesus? How do you use it if you did receive a gift from Jesus?
- When you read Ephesians 4:8-10, what thoughts come to your mind? Do you recognize these words from anywhere? What do you think Paul is teaching his audience about Christ's return? How do you interpret this passage and what does it stir in you regarding your own standard of Christian conduct and the exercise of your faith.