

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE



Sunday Morning, March 20, 2024 » Pastor Josiah Kagin

Message Title: New Life in Christ is Changing Everything

Message Text: Ephesians 4:1-3

Introduction:

The day you received Jesus Christ, all things became new with you. *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”* (2 Corinthians 5:17) If that happened twenty years ago or if it was last week, it is still true. However, we have to be reminded often of this newness so we can act accordingly. Paul wrote to the Ephesian believers to help them to understand the beauty of their eternal salvation in Jesus Christ. *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.”* (Ephesians 2:8–9) He then urged them to walk in a way that would complement their new life in Christ. *“In brief, God says in Ephesian chapters 1–3, ‘I have made you a saint.’ In chapters 4–6, He says, ‘Now, live a saintly life.’”* (Wuest) This same exhortation is needed in our lives today.

1 Peter 1:14 As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:

1. A New _____ (1)

Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

NOTE — Belief drives behavior.

DEFINITION—WALK: behavior; a decision to live or behave in a specified manner

DEFINITION—WORTHY: in a manner befitting or deserving (of some person or other object).

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Philippians 1:27 Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

DEFINITION—VOCATION: calling (state); all that is expected of a person who accepts God's summons to the hope of salvation in Jesus.

2 Timothy 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

2. A New _____ (2)

Ephesians 4:2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

DEFINITION—LOWLINESS: humility; the disposition of valuing or assessing oneself appropriately; especially in light of one's sinfulness or creatureliness.

QUOTE: The lowliness of mind which springs from a true estimate of ourselves—a deep sense of our own moral smallness and demerit. — Expositors

DEFINITION—MEEKNESS: gentleness; acting in a manner that is gentle, mild, and even-tempered.

QUOTE: A grace of soul...temper of spirit. — Trench

DEFINITION—LONG-SUFFERING: patient endurance of pain or unhappiness.

NOTE — This is patience with respect of persons, rather than patience in respect of things. —Trench

DEFINITION—FORBEARING IN LOVE: to bear; to endure something unpleasant or difficult whether on one's own behalf or on behalf of someone else.

QUOTE: We are to bear with one another "in love." It is in the sphere of the love that God the Holy Spirit produces in the heart of the yielded believer (Gal. 5:22), that we are to be patient with each other as misunderstandings arise, as cutting words are said, as unkind actions are done. The love shown at Calvary was a forgiving love. Ours should be the same. —Wuest

3. A New _____ (3)

Ephesians 4:3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

DEFINITION—ENDEAVORING: to be eager; to have or show keen interest, intense desire.

DEFINITION—KEEP: guard; maintain; protect

QUOTE: Paul does not tell us to manufacture unity, but to maintain the unity already existing in the body. —Weirsbe

DEFINITION—UNITY OF THE SPIRIT: oneness; the quality of being united into one by the Spirit of God

Note — Uniformity is being the same, while unity being one.

John 17:20–21 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

DEFINITION—IN THE BOND OF PEACE: *a connection based on kinship or marriage or common interest understood as something that fastens various parts (as on a ship) together.*

TIPS FOR UNITY

BE AWARE OF LETTING _____ THINGS DESTROY UNITY.

Song of Solomon 2:15 Take us the foxes, The little foxes, that spoil the vines: For our vines have tender grapes.

SEEK THE _____ OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

_____ IN CORPORATE WORSHIP AND PRAISE

Ephesians 5:19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

GIVE _____ ALWAYS FOR ALL THINGS.

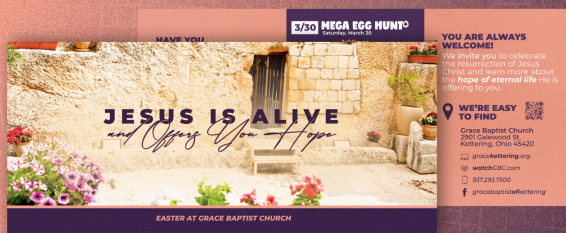
Ephesians 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

_____ TO ONE ANOTHER IN REVERENCE TO GOD.

Ephesians 5:21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

Conclusion

Romans 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.



Easter Grace Goes
Saturday, March 23 at 10:00am
*Working together to invite our
community to Easter Sunday*



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