



**UNITY THROUGH DIVERSITY**

*Ephesians 4:1-16*

**OPENING QUESTION**

Do you prefer to work alongside people who share your strengths & weaknesses, or people with different skills and temperaments? Discuss the pros and cons in working with both types of people.

- 1 Read Ephesians 4:1. What does it mean to “walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called”?
  
- 2 Verses 2-3 identify 5 qualities that ought to characterize a Christian lifestyle. Discuss the significance of each of these attributes.
  - Humility:
  - Gentleness:
  - Patience:
  - Forbearance:
  - Love:
  
- 3 What does the “oneness” of verses 4-6 teach us about the type of unity Paul has in mind throughout this passage?
  
- 4 Verse 7 marks a transition from addressing the church corporately to addressing individuals within the church. Why is it important that we recognize our differences from one another?
  
- 5 Verse 11 tells us that Jesus gave the various offices mentioned as a gift to the church. How does the idea that these positions of spiritual leadership are given by Jesus affect your understanding of the role of these offices?
  
- 6 What does it mean that these offices are given to the church to “equip the saints for works of service”?

- 7 According to verses 12-13, what three things result from a church operating in accordance with these instructions?
- 8 Verses 15-16 tell us that the church grows “into Christ” and “from” Christ. What does this teach us about Jesus’ role in our growth?

APPLY THE LESSON

Consider your own contributions to the body of Christ. In which of these three areas do you sense the greatest need for improvement? Make this a matter of prayer. If you feel comfortable doing so, share this as a prayer request with someone in your Life Group.

- A Worthy Walk
- A Worthy Work
- A Worthy Witness

*This is a personal question for people to consider on their own.*