



Welcome to Grand Heights! 20 February 2022

Text prayer requests/questions/comments to 937-718-0533

Order of Service

- Everlasting God
- Forever Reign
- Announcements, Project Cuba, and Greetings ⁽³⁾
- Scripture Reading
- They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love
- Prayer
- Offering: Speak, O Lord
- Message
- Our God



Everlasting God

"...The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth..." Isaiah 40:28

Brenton Brown and Ken Riley

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord

Our God, You reign forever Our hope, our strong deliverer

You are the everlasting God
The everlasting God
You do not faint
You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on wings like eagles

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Forever Reign

"The LORD reigns for ever and ever" Exodus 15:18

Jason Ingram and Reuben Morgan

You are good, You are good
When there's nothing good in me
You are love, You are love
On display for all to see
You are light, You are light
When the darkness closes in
You are hope, You are hope
You have covered all my sin

You are peace, You are peace When my fear is crippling You are true, You are true Even in my wandering You are joy, You are joy You're the reason that I sing You are life, You are life In You, death has lost its sting

Oh, I'm running to Your arms
I'm running to Your arms
The riches of Your love
Will always be enough
Nothing compares to Your embrace
Light of the world forever reign

You are more, You are more Than my words will ever say You are Lord, You are Lord All creation will proclaim You are here, You are here In Your presence I'm made whole You are God, You are God Of all else, I'm letting go

Oh, I'm running to Your arms
I'm running to Your arms
The riches of Your love
Will always be enough
Nothing compares to Your embrace
Light of the world forever reign

My heart will sing, no other name, Jesus, Jesus My heart will sing, no other name, Jesus, Jesus My heart will sing, no other name, Jesus, Jesus My heart will sing, no other name, Jesus, Jesus

Oh, I'm running to Your arms
I'm running to Your arms
The riches of Your love
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Ephesians 4:1-6 – English Standard Version (ESV)

¹ I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love #284

"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." Eph. 4:3

Peter Scholtes

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord And we pray that all unity may one day be restored

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will work with each other, we will work side by side We will work with each other, we will work side by side And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come And all praise to Christ Jesus, His Only Son And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

Offering: Speak, O Lord

"What we have received is...the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us" 1 Cor. 2:11

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You To receive the food of Your Holy Word Take Your truth, plant it deep in us Shape and fashion us in Your likeness

That the light of Christ might be seen today In our acts of love and our deeds of faith Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us All Your purposes for Your glory

Teach us Lord, full obedience; Holy reverence, true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity

Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority Words of pow'r that can never fail Let their truth prevail over unbelief

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity

And by grace we'll stand on Your promises And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built And the earth is filled with Your glory



Ephesians 4:1-6

[1] I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, [2] with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, [3] eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. [4] There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—[5] one Lord, one faith, one baptism, [6] one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (ESV)

Ephesians 4

In the first part of this chapter (vv.1-2), Paul urges living in a way that reflects the gospel in lifestyle and relationships (see "the calling" below). To live by this lofty calling, the character traits of humility, gentleness, and patience are central. These heart attitudes help us extend graciousness to others.

[1] I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, <u>urge</u> you to walk in a manner <u>worthy of the calling</u> to which you have been called, [2] with all <u>humility</u> and <u>gentleness</u>, with <u>patience</u>, <u>bearing</u> with one another in love,

Ephesians 4

In v.3, Paul describes the mysterious power that makes this loving and peaceful co-existence with other believers possible, the Spirit. [3] eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Notice the eager resolve for this unity.

Back in ch.2, Paul had noted in 2:18-19 that, "For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So, then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God," and in 2:22 that in Christ believers "are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit."

So, God is building a unified body by the Spirit, and believers are to strive to protect and preserve this unity, through the Spirit.

Ephesians 4

Paul lists a series of unifying principles of the Christian faith starting with the "one body" and the "one Spirit". He then proceeds to mention the unifying factors of "one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all."

[4] There is <u>one body</u> and <u>one Spirit</u>—just as you were called to the <u>one hope</u> that belongs to your call—[5] <u>one Lord</u>, <u>one faith</u>, <u>one baptism</u>, [6] <u>one God</u> and <u>Father of all</u>, who is <u>over all</u> and <u>through all</u> and <u>in all</u>.

The four prepositions (3 in Greek) describe God's work with His church. He is Father of all (all adopted children), over all (Lord), through all (working through His body) and in all (by His Spirit).

- One Body- the church made up of people from all nations
- One Spirit- the Holy Spirit lives in and unites all believers
- One Hope- the gospel of the kingdom and the glorious future
- One Lord- Jesus, no other name for salvation; head of His church and future king
- One Faith- Christ is Lord; God has raised Him from the dead
- One Baptism- baptism in water that symbolizes the baptism of the Spirit
- One God, Father- The One True God has adopted us as His children



Ephesians 4:1-6

These unifying beliefs in the Christian faith should prompt us to the two things that Paul urged in vv.1-2: 1) walking in humility, gentleness, patience, loving forbearance; and 2) being eager to maintain unity in the Spirit with other believers.

These two calls to action require the Spirit's power. It is the Spirit who works the characteristics of love, humility, gentleness, and patience into the believer (Gal 5:22-23). Furthermore, the Spirit living every believer compels us to work toward unity (and reconciliation) with other believers. The Spirit does not contend against Himself, so believers who are indwelt by the Spirit need to be eager for unity. Because human sinfulness (the flesh) fights against the Spirit's work of unity, we often find ourselves in the need for reconciliation to restore unity.

The Spirit unifies:

15 resolutions towards reconciliation (Jim Elliff, @ Christian Communicators Worldwide)

- I will accept whatever means God may use to make me more humble and therefore more dependent on Him, no matter how damaging to my reputation or ambition.
 - "Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong." (2 Cor 12:10)
- I will seek to peacefully and humbly resolve the conflict face to face immediately, unless it is providentially impossible to do so.
 - "Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar and go: first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering." (Matthew 5:23-24)
- I will thoroughly repent of any known sin in my life, and will sincerely express my repentance to those who are concerned, even if there is blame on the other side.

"Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent." (Rev 3:19)

The Spirit unifies:

 I will be painfully accurate in my words about myself, even if it embarrasses or condemns me (yet I will not be intentionally and unnecessarily hurtful or demeaning to others).

"Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who deal faithfully are His delight." (Proverbs 12:22)

5. I will believe and speak the truth (i.e. what God says), and not the lie (i.e. what anyone else might say, including me, if my thoughts are contrary to His word) by grounding myself daily through meditation on God's word.

"If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." (John 8:31-32)

I will make affection for God and others my great ambition no matter how deeply I have been hurt.

"Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins." (1 Peter 4:8)

The Spirit unifies:

I will value fellowship with Christ in suffering as one of the high callings of life even if accused unjustly.

"Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you." (Matthew 5:11-12)

8. I will treat anxiety as an insipid enemy and a sign to prompt me to pray and to build up my faith by seeking God's perspective found in reading the Bible carefully and constantly.

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:8)

I will gladly leave all vengeance to God, who sees and evaluates with perfection.

"Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. . . . If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' says the Lord. But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:17-21)

The Spirit unifies:

10. I will forgive from my heart any time I'm asked to forgive, not analyzing whether the offending person is worthy, has perfect motives, or is adequately repentant.

"Then Peter came and said to Him, 'Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.'" (Matthew 18:21-22; see also Luke 17:1-5)

- 11. I will cry out to God that His commands would be accomplished in the lives of all involved, but will fully accept His sovereign will even when they are not. "Your kingdom come. Your will be done." (Matthew 6:10)
- 12. I will entrust myself to the one who judges rightly, just as Christ did, even when I am misunderstood.

"Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right." (1 Peter 4:19)

The Spirit unifies:

13. I will give thanks in everything, and rejoice in the Lord always, for this is safe for me.

"Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things again is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you." (Philippians 3:1)

"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

14. I will persist in believing that God will yet use me in the future even if I have been accused wrongly or was the guilty, but now repentant, offender.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and sustain me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will be converted to You." (Psalm 52:10-13)

15. I will refuse to let Satan, the archenemy of believers, gain the ultimate victory in this conflict.

". . . so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes." (2 Cor 2:11) "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet." (Rom 16:20)

Our God

"... If God is for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:31

Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, Jonas Myrin, and Matt Redman

Water You turned into wine Opened the eyes of the blind There's no one like You None like You

Into the darkness You shine
Out of the ashes we rise
There's no one like You
None like You

Our God is greater
Our God is stronger
God You are higher than any other
Our God is Healer
Awesome in power
Our God, Our God

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Our God is greater, Our God is stronger God You are higher than any other Our God is Healer, awesome in power Our God, Our God

And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us?
And if Our God is with us, then what can stand against?
And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us?
And if Our God is with us, then what can stand against?
What can stand against?

Our God is greater, Our God is stronger God You are higher than any other Our God is Healer, awesome in power Our God, Our God

Our God is greater, Our God is stronger God You are higher than any other Our God is Healer, awesome in power Our God, Our God



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