

Living Up To Our Calling

Ephesians 4:1-6

Introduction

I The Call Of The Christian

- A. Live a worthy life - Phil 1:27
 - 1. Worthy of our high calling
 - 2. Worthy of our high position
- B. For what purpose?
 - 1. To display the manifold wisdom of God - Eph 3:10

II The Attitudes That Lead To Unity

- A. Humility - Phil 2:6-8; 2:3-4; Rom 12:10
- B. Gentleness - Num 12:3; Mt 11:29
- C. Patience - 1 Cor 13:4; Gal 5:22-23; Col 3:12
- D. Bearing with one another in love - 1 Cor 13:4-5; Col 3:12-14

III The Responsibility Of The Christian

- A. Keep the unity of the Spirit
 - 1. Requires effort - Rom 14:19; Heb 12:14
 - 2. But how far should we go? - Rom 12:18
- B. The basis for unity among believers
 - 1. One body - Eph 3:6
 - 2. One Spirit - 1 Cor 12:13
 - 3. One hope - Col 1:27; Rom 8:23-24
 - 4. One Lord - 1 Co 8:5-6
 - 5. One faith - Jude 3
 - 6. One baptism - Mt 28:18-20; Ac 2:38; 10:48
 - 7. One God and Father - 1 Cor 8:5-6; 12:5-6

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. In your experience, what builds unity among believers? What destroys unity?
2. What qualities mark the life of a believer who is walking worthily? What are the effects (on yourself, the body of Christ, and unbelievers) when you fail to walk worthily? What are the benefits of walking worthily?
3. What do you think is easier, creating unity or maintaining unity? Often times relationships "go south" because we don't maintain them. What are some practical things you have found that help maintain unity in relationships?
4. Do you currently have a strained or broken relationship in your life? Could applying the qualities Paul mentions in verse 2 make a difference? How?
5. Pray to live a life worthy of the Lord and to do whatever is possible, so far as it depends on you, to live a life of unity and peace with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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