
Our main point for the message today:

“WALKING TOGETHER IN JESUS LEADS TO OUR MATURITY. WE ARE ALREADY UNIFIED AND NONE OF US WALKS ALONE, FOR GOD HAS DESIGNED US TO BE TOGETHER.”

WALKING TOGETHER

Week 5:

Ephesians 4:1-16

INSTRUCTION ON OUR “WALK” WITH THE LORD

IT'S TIME TO WALK

“Therefore” refers to chapters 1-3. Believers have the truth and the power through Christ, now it is time to walk it out in our lives.

1. Chapters 1-3 “How God sees us in Christ” Chapters 4-6 “How the world sees us in Christ”
2. “Therefore” is linked to “I... beg you”— God asks us to walk with Him based upon the truth, of our own will, not from His commandment.

WALKING IN UNITY

Unity is the state or condition of multiples being brought into oneness. If we are going to walk in unity and oneness there are some personal prerequisites.

1. You must seek to become “Humble and Gentle”
2. You must be willing to be “patient with others and allow for their faults”

TWO PHRASES WE ALL MUST LEARN: “I’M NOT SURE” AND “I AM SORRY”. (PRIDEFUL SELF-ASSURANCE AND UNFORGIVENESS WILL SINK OUR UNITY AS A CHURCH)

PAUL'S PROGRESSION

- The Apostle Paul models how to see ourselves in a “Unity” light:
- 55 AD he wrote in I Corinthians 15:9, “I am the least of the apostles... I persecuted God’s church”
- 61 AD he wrote in Ephesians 3:8, “I am the least deserving of all of God’s people”
- 66 AD he wrote in I Timothy 1:15, “Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners— and I am the worst of them all.”

KEEPING OUR 7-FOLD UNITY

- One body
- One Spirit
- One hope
- One Lord
- One faith
- One baptism
- One Father

UNITY IN REALITY

- None of us grows to maturity apart from life with other believers. We are designed to be together as one body, many parts.
 - This is a FALSE equation: Jesus + Me = Maturity

UNITY IN REALITY

- “I am not fit for life with others. I have way too many faults and you won't like me or want me here.”
- As a local assembly of believers in Jesus, we are an expression of the Body of Christ. This is a place for you to participate with your gifts.

UNITY IN REALITY

- “I may go to church if I can fit it in, but I also may not.”
- God, by His Holy Spirit, is working in us all toward harmony and unity. “He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. ***AS EACH PART DOES ITS OWN SPECIAL WORK***, it helps the other parts grow...”