

Walk Worthily of the Calling

Ephesians 4-6

What God Has Given Us

- **1 Corinthians 13:13** mentions **three** things that are **permanent: faith, hope, and love**
- **Spiritual gifts** were **temporary v.8-10**
- The **parts** ended when the **complete whole** had been given **v.10**
- Even in the beginning, God's concern was that the church have faith, hope, and love
- **Colossians 1:5; 1 Thessalonians 1:3**

Ephesians 1:15-16

- “Therefore I also, after I heard of your **faith** in **the Lord Jesus** and your **love** for all the **saints**, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:”
- What is missing?
- It is what Paul prays that the Ephesians would come to understand...

Ephesians 1:17-19a

- “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may **know what is the hope of His calling**, what are the **riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints**, and what is the **exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe,**”

Ephesians 3:19-21

- “**know the love of Christ** which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with the fullness of God. Now to **Him** who is able to do **exceedingly, abundantly above all** that we ask or think, according to **His power** that **works in us**, to **Him be glory** in **the church** by **Christ Jesus** to all generations, **forever and ever**. Amen.”

HOPE

FAITH

Hebrews 11:1

**GOD'S
LOVE**

WILLINGNESS

Eph. 1:3-3:21

**GOD'S
POWER
ABILITY**

**Eph. 1:19-23
3:20**

Know that God Loves You

- **1:3-14** praise: He has richly blessed you
- **1:15-23** prayer: know glory of being His
- **2:1-13** past to present: He called you out of sin's death & despair into His living love & marvelous light **1 Peter 2:9**
- **2:14-18** peace: He initiated reconciliation
- **2:19-3:13** plan: He always had you in mind
- **3:14-21** petition: know the love of Christ
- All of it emphasizes God's willingness
- **1:19-23** and **3:20** Know God's Power

Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians

1-3 *Know the Hope of His Calling*

Information to assure us of God's love

Information to assure us of God's power

Now that you know the hope of His calling
from the truth in chapters 1-3,

4-6 *Walk Worthily of the Calling*

How to live based upon the calling

You cannot know it without living it

***Walk Worthily of the Calling of which
You Were Called – Ephesians 4-6***

- ***Walk in Unity 4:1-16***
- ***Walk No Longer as the Gentiles Walk 4:17-32***
- ***Walk in Love 5:1-7***
- ***Walk as Children of Light 5:8-14***
- ***Walk Circumspectly, Not as Fools, But as Wise 5:15-6:9***
Applications for wisdom in relationships 5:22-6:9
- ***Be Strong in the Lord and in the Power of His Might
6:10-20***

Walk in Unity – Ephesians 4:1-16

- *Walk* – PERIPATEO “to tread around” metaphor for **manner of life**; wherever you go, whatever you do
- *worthily* – a manner befitting **God’s call to us**
- *of the calling* **Titus 2:11-14**
- **v.3 endeavoring** (effort, determination, zeal, patience)
- *To keep the unity of the Spirit* (spiritual reality described in **v.4-6**)
- *In the bond of peace* (attitudes & behavior in **v.2**)

The United, Growing Church - Ephesians 4:11-16

V.11-12 process: teach → saints → minister → grow

V.13-14 goal: measure of fullness of Christ

V.15-16 process: truth → each part works → grow

• Strength of the church – v.16:

Strength of union to Christ the head

Proportion of members working

Proportion of members working with others

Proportion of effort compared to ability

Walk No Longer as the Gentiles Walk

Ephesians 4:17-32

- **Stop** doing **THAT** and **start** doing **THIS**
- **Life** of ignorance, **folly**, **depravity**, **corruption**, **ruin**
v.17-19; Proverbs 4:19
- **You** have not **so learned** **Christ** **v.20**
- **Put on the new man** (**Christ**) **v.21-24; Galatians 3:26-27**
- **First learn** **Christ** **v.21; Romans 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18**
- **Put off** the old man **v.22**
- **New creation** **2 Cor. 5:17; renew your mind** **2 Cor. 4:16**

Walk No Longer as the Gentiles Walk

Ephesians 4:17-32

- **Stop lying and start telling the truth v.25-27**
- **Channel anger to destroy the problem, not the person or yourself James 1:19; 3:17; Phil. 2:14**
- **Stop taking and start giving v.28**
- **Stop bad speech and start speaking good to edify v.29**
- **Do not grieve *the Holy Spirit* v.30; 1:13-14; 2:18,22; 3:5,16; 4:3,4; 5:9*,18; 6:17-20; Acts 5:32**
- **Stop thinking & expressing ugly thoughts v.31 & start being kind, merciful, forgiving v.32 as Christ did to you**

Walk in Love – Ephesians 5:1-7

- The command: *Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave Himself for us* 1 John 3:16
- The contrast with the world's concept of love v.3-6; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8
- *Therefore implies* another connecting application
- *Do not allow yourselves to become their companions* v.7; 1 Corinthians 15:33; 2 Cor. 6:14
- Love desires connection to others, but love cannot connect to sinful actions...this leads into v.8-14

Walk in Light – Ephesians 5:8-14

- You are **light** (used to be darkness)
- No middle ground: **each person** is either **part** of the **problem** or **part** of the **solution**
- *Walk as children of light* children of God **1 Tim. 6:16**
- *Because the fruit of light is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth, demonstrating what is well-pleasing to the Lord* **Matthew 5:14-16**
- **Light exposes evil v.11-13**
- *Wake from sleep, arise from dead, Christ will give light* **v.14; 2:1-7; Rom. 13:11-14; Isaiah 60:1; 9:2; 26:19**

Now that **you** are awake...

- **v.15**
- **Look!**

Walk in Wisdom – Ephesians 5:15-6:9

- *Look very diligently how you walk* v.15 not foolishly but wisely
- Use time wisely v.16; James 4:13-17; Luke 12:16-21
- The days are evil, unpredictable
- Doing nothing makes things worse
- Through all of this do not be careless, impulsive but understanding what is the will of the Lord v.17
- Addled inebriation vs. gratitude attitude v.18-20
- Humility *Be subjected to one another in fear of Christ* v.21; Matt. 25:40

Be Subjected to One Another – Eph. 5:22-6:9

- *The wives to their own husbands as to the Lord...in everything v.22-24*
- *The husbands love...their wives even as the Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her v.25,33*
- *The children obey your parents in the Lord 6:1-3*
- *Fathers, do not be provoking your children to anger but training them in the care and counsel of the Lord v.4*
- *Slaves to masters...as to the Lord v. 5-8 because it is*
- *Masters do the same to them v.9 equality in Christ*

Be Strong in the Lord and in the Power of His Might

- 6:10-20

- Most of **Ephesians 1-3** was to **convince** them of **God's love**
- Both prayers in **Ephesians 1:15-23 & 3:14-21** focused more on **love** but ended with emphasis on **God's power**
- Most of **Ephesians 4-6** was to **persuade** them to live with **God's love** as their foundation and example
- **Ephesians 4-6** ends with an appeal to be **strengthened** in the power of the Lord
- **Put on** the whole armor of God (**word-related**) & **pray**

