

I. Walking Worthy - Eph. 4:1-3

1. To walk worthy involves our relationships with others (**verse 1**)
2. Prisoner of the Lord - at 3:1 he was a prisoner for the sake the Gentiles
Rea -discuss Paul's view of his imprisonment - do you think that impacted his attitude?
3. Urge you - entreat, exhort, appeal
Rea -challenge you
-walk worthy
Rea -worthy of what? - the calling - obviously a high calling (he felt)
4. Things that promote unity (**verses 2-3**)
Rea I rather say - here are some ways to "walk worthy"
 - A. Humble (the opposite of pride)
 - B. Gentle (demeanor)
 - C. Bearing with one another
Rea -put up with one another (sometimes)
 - D. Patience
 - E. Make every effort
Rea -does it require effort? - even if "filled with the Holy Spirit?"
5. Unity looks good on church people
Rea -conversely, when the community hears we split, it shouts we are not for real
Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. These qualities are not natural
 2. Are they gifts of the Spirit?
Are they fruits of the Spirit?
 3. Gentle -vs bullying and Pharisaical

II. Living Unified - Eph. 4:4-6

1. One body and one Spirit (**verse 4**)
-we are one
Rea -then why do you think we act so dis-unified?
2. One hope - the same hope in their salvation experience
3. One Lord (**verses 5-6**)
Rea -one boss/ master/ king
4. One faith
Rea -held together by the direction of our faith - the Jesus direction
5. One baptism
Rea -I see this as the real baptism - the baptism of the Holy Spirit
6. One God and father of us all
Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. The resounding word is "one"
-we are one, one, one
 2. Not what we will later achieve, we "are" one
 3. Reminding them of that which they have in common

Rea -I often think that denominations need this reminder - that what we agree on is much bigger than what we disagree on

III. Enjoying Victory - Eph. 4:7-10

1. To each a gift (**verses 7-8**)
 - apportioned by Christ
2. An illustration from a military parade - Ps 68
 - conquered enemies were often paraded as the spoils of victory
 - Christ has won and now ascends
 - He gives gifts (spoils) of victory
3. Jesus descended, then ascended (**verses 9-10**)
 - ascended to heaven
 - descended into the depths of earth (earthly regions)
4. He descended to die on the cross, then ascended into heaven
 - in doing so He “filled the whole universe”

Rea Ideas and Questions:

1. To the victor belongs the spoils
 - often a victorious king would divide the takings with his soldiers - giving gifts
 - so, the idea is that Jesus won the victory, and now gives us gifts
2. Gifted (so different)
 - “One” so the same
3. Unity and diversity all in the same passage
4. We get into differences:
 - skin color, status, money, fame
 - Jesus sees us as having much the same - one Lord, one faith, etc
5. His victory becomes our victory

Greg Pouncey - SS Lesson for 10-13-19