

Sermon Notes for October 16, 2005 Morning

Morning: “The Worthy Walk” Ephesians 4:1-32 (Pew Bible page 1039)
(Our Unity in Christ)

The Holy Spirit now calls us to walk worthy, to match our position and relation to Jesus Christ. The practical application chapters begin here where God calls us to a “worthy walk.” We see that **behavior** follows **belief**, **duty** follows **doctrine**, **practice** follows **principle**, and **works** follows **faith**. The “worthy walk” means:

Unity— “Endeavoring to keep the **unity** of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” Ephesians 4:1-6

Victory— “When **He ascended** on high, He led captivity **captive**.” Ephesians 4:7-10

Ministry— “**For the equipping of the saints** for the work of ministry.” Ephesians 4:11-13

Maturity— “That we should **no longer be children**.” Ephesians 4:14-16

Purity— “You should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk **in the vanity of their mind**.” Ephesians 4:17

Charity— “And be kind to one another, **tender hearted**, forgiving one another.” Ephesians 4:32

Spirituality— “Therefore, be imitators of God as dear children . . . Walk as children of light . . . **The fruit of the Spirit . . . Be filled with the Spirit**.” Ephesians 5:1, 8-9, 18

I. A Unity Having Sincere **Tenderness**— “I beseech you to walk worthy of the calling to which you have been called.” Ephesians 4:1 “That they may be one as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee; that they may be one in us.” John 17:21

❖ A Tender **Holiness**— Ephesians 4:1

- “I beseech you”— parakaleo — A call from the Holy Spirit
- “Walk” — Our daily conduct—To have a daily life that matches your position and relation in Christ. (Philippians 1:26; Colossians 1:10; I John 1:7, 2:6)
- “Worthy” — “Worthy is the Lamb” — Live and walk as if the Lamb was present with you each moment . . . And He is.

❖ A Tender **Humility**— Ephesians 4:2-3— Martin Lloyd-Jones: “Nothing will so avail to divide the Church as love of power.”

- “Lowliness/Humility” - The opposite of human pride and self will. To be brought low, being “poor in spirit.” “Humility is the flagship of all Christian virtues.”

- “Gentleness/Meekness”— “Strength under control, inner brokenness” Moses was “very meek, above all men on the earth.” Numbers 12:3
- “Longsuffering/Patience”— Long fused—willing to suffer a wrong and commit all things to God.
- “Forbearing/Accepting”- Restraint under provocation with liberal allowance for faults and failing of others.
- “Endeavoring/Striving”- Diligence to do your best, heroic persistence, fixed determination.
- “Keep” - Guard fast, preserve, protect
- “Bond of peace” - “Bond” is the same word as “Prisoner” in Ephesians 4:1— We are **bound** to keep peace in the Church as a prisoner is **bound** in chains. We are “**bound**” to seek and keep peace.

All these qualities of lowliness are like our Lord Jesus Christ. We are called to be like Him, called to be conformed to the image of God’s Son. Romans 8:29 (1005) “Learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart.” Matthew 11:29 (859) Humility is the foundation of Christian unity and “ministry for the Lord.”

II. A Unity Honoring the Sacred **Trinity**— “One Spirit . . . One Lord . . . One God and Father of all.” Ephesians 4:4-6, 1:3, 1:6-7, 1:13-14; Matthew 3:16-17 (851); II Corinthians 13:14 (1033); Isaiah 6:1-3 (609)

III. A Unity Holding Spiritual **Teaching**— “There is one body, and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, Who is above all, and through all, and in you all.” Ephesians 4:4-6

- Spiritual Teaching of our **Calling**— “One body and one Spirit (I Corinthians 12:13) . . . One hope of your calling.” Ephesians 4:4
- Spiritual Teaching of our **Confession**— One Lord, one faith, one baptism” Ephesians 4:5
- Spiritual Teaching of the **Consummation**— “One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.” Ephesians 4:6; Romans 11:36 (1008)

“**Together**” I Thessalonians 4:16-17 (1050)