

## *Ephesians: Walking the Talk*

*(Ephesians 4:1-6)*

### **The Walk (v. 1-3)**

- Paul's plea with the church is to walk in a manner worthy of the calling we have received
- This "Calling" is the new identity we have in Jesus
  - Not unique to certain people in the Church
- The walk is further defined by:
  - Humility: putting the needs of others before your own (Phil 2:3-4; Rom 12:3, 16)
  - Gentleness: meekness; inward attitude of grace towards others (1 Pet 3:15-16; Gal 6:1)
  - Patience: long-suffering; the ability to endure annoyance and difficulties over a period of time (1 Tim 1:16; 2 Pet 3:15)
  - Putting up with one another in love: enduring the wrong-doings & annoyances of others out of Christ's love for them (Col 3:13)
  - A desire for unity & peace: being like-minded
    - Not my mind or your mind; but Christ's mind given through the Spirit (1 Cor. 12:13-16)
    - Which requires effort on our part (v. 3; Rom 12:18)

### **Unity's Source (v. 4-6)**

- We can be in unity because we are one through the Spirit
  - Unity is NOT thinking the same about everything
  - It is finding our identity & purpose in the same source: Jesus
- We share in one hope
  - Our common Master
  - Our unifying faith
  - Our shared identity
    - Baptism is a marker of this new identity in Christ
    - A symbol of sharing in Christ's death & resurrection life (Rom 6:3-5)
  - Our God, who is One (Deut. 6:4)
    - Who is Father of all (3:15)
      - Making us one family (2:11-22)

### **So What?**

- When we find our identity in Christ, the Spirit gives us the ability to live that identity out
- Are we walking the talk?
- Are our lives marked by humility, gentleness, patience, love and unity?

*Meditation Verse: Ephesians 3:17b-19*