

Walk In Unity (Ephesians 4:1-6)

Big Idea: We can walk in unity because of all we have in common in Christ.

The Command (1)

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, Eph. 4:1 ESV

The Process (2-3)

Character

with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, Eph. 4:2 ESV

Humility

Gentleness/meekness

Patience

Bearing with one another in love

Unity

³*eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

Eager

Maintain unity

Of the Spirit

Basis for unity (4-6)

⁴*There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

In the Spirit

⁴There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—

One body

One Spirit

One hope

In the Son

one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

One Lord

One faith

One baptism

In the Father

one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

One God

One Father of all

Over all

Through all

“The one body of believers is vitalized by one Spirit, so all believers have one hope. That body is united to its one Lord (Christ) by each member’s one act of faith, and its identity with Him is depicted by one baptism. One God, the Father, is supreme over all, operative through all, and resides in all. All seven components are united in the Trinity.” (Wiersbe)

Implications

Our Unity is based on the fact that we are In Christ

“Has it ever occurred to you that one hundred pianos all turned to the same fork are automatically tuned to each other? They are of one accord by being tuned, not to each other, but to another standard to which each one must individually bow.

So one hundred worshipers [meeting] together, each one looking away to Christ, are in heart nearer to each other than they could possibly be, were they to become ‘unity’ conscious and turn their eyes away from God to strive for closer fellowship” (A.W. Tozer in The Pursuit of God).

We must do our part to maintain our unity.

Barriers

Our different opinions on controversial matters.

Our lifestyle choices

Does not mean:	Does mean:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That you can't hold an opinion/conviction about things ◆ That you necessarily need to alter your behavior ◆ That you can't discuss an issue with someone ◆ That you are tolerant of clear areas of sin in another persons life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ You allow others to hold a different opinion/ conviction ◆ You are sensitive when around others who differ ◆ You can agree to disagree and yet stay connected ◆ That you give grace in “gray” areas

Unity is critical to our witness.

²¹ I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. ²² “I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. ²³ I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. (John 17: 21-23 NLT)

.

Application

Examine your relationships

if it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Romans
12:18