

Learning How To Walk The Talk

Sermon Based Life Group study for the week of May 12

Getting To Know Each Other

- How did your mother (or how did she not) unite your family? Share how her plans to arrange family time worked when you were young and when you were older.
- What was the worst storm you have traveled through? How did it try blow you off track and how did you stay the course? Share.

Into the Bible

Read Ephesians 4:1-16

- The first three chapters of Ephesians were meant to remind the church who they were in Christ and what he had done for them. Chapters 4-6 encouraged the church to live out this new faith. What was the first command that Paul gave them.
- What did Paul mean when he said he was a “prisoner for the Lord”? Discuss. Did he mean he was a prisoner because of the Lord? Or for the Lord. What is the difference?
- What calling did the Ephesians receive? See Eph 2:10, 3:10 and 3:20.
- List the four ways Paul challenged the church to live a life worthy of the calling they received in verse 2.
- Discuss the nature of these characteristics that Paul commands. What was he asking the church to work on? Different tasks or internal issues? What does that teach us?
- How are these characteristics foundational to living in a manner worthy of our calling?
- What should the church make every effort to achieve? Verse 3
- In verses 4-6, who is the example of being in unity? Explain where the trinity is seen in these verses.
- What does each member of the church receive in verse 7. Who apportioned it to us? Discuss what this meant to the Ephesian church and to us today?
- In verse 11, what gift examples were given to the church? What other spiritual gifts are mentioned in Scripture? See 1 Corinthians 12:4-30 and Romans 12:3-8.
- When the church uses their gifts, what happens to the church as a whole? Verse 12
- How long is the church supposed to exercise their gifts? Verse 13
- When the church functions as commanded, what are the positive consequences? V. 14
- How are we supposed to interact with the church family when we don’t agree or have hurt feelings? Verse 15
- What did Jesus say about this? See Matthew 7:3-5, Matthew 18:15-18 Discuss.
- When we act as Paul commanded, what would be the result? Verse 16
- Application: Are you living up to the “calling you have received”? At work? In your home? Within your relationships with friends and family? Share.
- Application: Of all the spiritual gifts listed in this chapter and 1 Corinthians and Romans, which one do you possess? When did you discover it? How are you exercising it?
- Application: Are you more likely to “speak the truth in love” or try to keep the peace with people at all costs? Discuss.