

Walking in a Manner Worthy of Our Calling

Ephesians 4:1-6

October 21, 2007

Two Governing Sentences...

Ephesians 1:3—“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places...”

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

Ephesians 4:1, “I urge you...”

“To urge” means to earnestly ask for, to plead, to implore, to urgently request, even to beg.

Ephesians 4:1-3

- *Five Traits: humility, gentleness, patience, forbearance, and a passion for unity.*
- *Humility and Gentleness go together.*
- *Patience and Forbearance go together.*
- *All four traits drive toward the subject of unity.*

Humility & Gentleness

- *Humility is an inward state of heart born of contentment and delight in God; it's a submissiveness of heart to God and others born of awe in God; it's a proper self-assessment born of a growing vision of the glory and greatness of God.*

Humility & Gentleness

- *Gentleness is one of the main outward manifestations of humility; it's a God-centered, caring concern for other people; it's an inner-peace in God that manifests itself in calm assurance toward others; it's the ability to deal well with others because God has dealt so well with us.*

Patience & Forbearance

- *Patience is an inward state of heart born of contentment and satisfaction in God; it's an inward ability to constrain oneself in the face of irritating or difficult circumstances; it's a state of emotional calm in the face of provocation or misfortune.*

Patience & Forbearance

- *Forbearance is an outward manifestation of the patience that's in our hearts; it's the exercising of the self-restraint and tolerance that's in our hearts; it's the ability to love people even when they're irritating or rude or otherwise hard to deal with.*

A Key Question:

*“What is it about **YOU** that can’t deal with
the flaws in difficult people?”*

Paul's Plea to Us:

Paul is pleading with us to be humble and gentle, patient and forbearing people; he's pleading with us to be satisfied with God to the extent that we manifest our delight in him with these inward and outward traits.

So, let's be doers of the Word and not hearers only!