

Ephesians - Identity
Grown Ups – Part 8
09/17/2023

- Ephesians
- Grown Ups
- How to live
- Once you know who you are then you'll know what to do!

Eph. 4:1-16 (ESV) As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Live With:

1st) **WORTH**.

Eph. 4:1 (ESV) As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

- Jesus has made me worthy.
- An identity.
- Behavior flows from an identity.

2nd) **ATTITUDE**.

Eph. 4:2 (ESV) Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

- What must I do to be spiritually healthy?
- Ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life.
- Ok Dallas, I got that one, now what else?
- There is nothing else.
- Humble
- Gentle
- It implies great strength being withheld.
- Patient
- Bearing with one another

Matt. 11:28 (MSG) "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

3rd) **UNITY**.

Eph. 4:3 (ESV) Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

- Dear Everybody,
We have a serious problem:
We think we're good people,
But Jesus says we're not.
Sincerely,
Brant
- You ever think you're right about things and then you find out you're wrong
- You do everything to justify yourself
- Why unity?

John 13:34-35 (NLT) So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. 35 Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

*To dwell above with those we love, O that will be a glory. To dwell below with those we know,
Well, that's another story!*

- For unity to work, you have to be willing to work at it

Romans 8:28 (MSG) God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son.

Three Ways God Matures Us:

A) God Works **IN US**.

2 Cor. 3:18 (TLB) We can be mirrors that brightly reflect the glory of the Lord. And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him.

Phil. 2:13 (NIV) for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

B) God uses His Word, **PEOPLE** and circumstances.

- God's Word provides the truth we need to grow.
- People provide both the support and the pain we need to grow.
- Circumstances provide the environment we need to practice being like Jesus.
- I guarantee you will become more like Jesus.

C) God uses **TIME**.

- Becoming like Christ is a long, slow process of growth.

Eph. 4:13 (TLB) until finally we all believe alike about our salvation and about our Savior, God's Son, and all become full-grown in the Lord

- You are a work in progress.
- Your spiritual transformation in developing the character of Jesus will take the rest of your life.
- It will only be finished when you get to heaven or when Jesus returns.

4th) **HOPE**.

Eph. 4:4-5 (ESV) 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

- We're one body.
- We have one Spirit.
- We share one hope.
- We have one Lord.
- We have one faith.
- We have one baptism.
- We have one God.

1 Peter 1:3-5 (NIV) Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Peter 3:15(NIV) But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,