Walk Worthy as the Body of Christ

Ephesians 4:11-16



The Book of Ephesians

Chapters 1-3

Christ's Work

Chapters 4-6

Our Response

The Book of Ephesians

Chapter 1
What We
Have in
Him

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, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved...

7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth...

11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, 12 so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Every spiritual blessing

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 1:3

- Every spiritual blessing
- Chosen to be holy and blameless before him

Even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

EPHESIANS 1:4

- Every spiritual blessing
- Chosen to be holy and blameless before him
- Redemption and forgiveness of sins

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace

EPHESIANS 1:7

All this to the praise of his glory!

3 <u>Blessed</u> be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... 6 to the <u>praise of his glorious grace</u>, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved...

12 so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the <u>praise of his glory</u>...

14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the <u>praise of his glory</u>....

EPHESIANS 1:3, 6, 12, 14

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Chapter 2

What We
Used to Be
& What We
Are Now

1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

We used to be dead in our sins

1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—

EPHESIANS 2:1-2

- We used to be dead in our sins
- But God made us alive together with Christ

4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

EPHESIANS 2:4-5

- We used to be dead in our sins
- But God made us alive together with Christ
- To display the immeasurable riches of his grace

So that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

EPHESIANS 2:7

11 Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— 12 remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

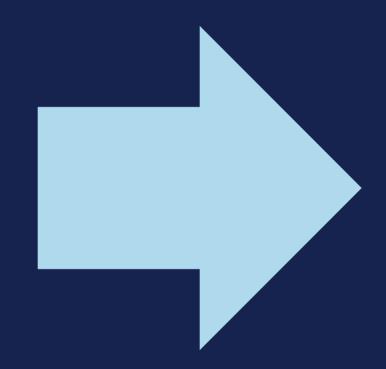
19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

We are being built together for God's dwelling

In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

EPHESIANS 2:22

From Dead



To God's Dwelling

1 And <u>you were dead</u> in the trespasses and sins... 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

EPHESIANS 2:1, 22

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Chapter 3

Paul's

Particular

Calling in

This Body

1 For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles — 2 assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, 3 how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly.... 6 This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel...

7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. 8 To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things...

13 So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

Chapter 3: Paul's Particular Calling

To proclaim this Gospel to the Gentiles

To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ

EPHESIANS 3:8

Chapter 3: Paul's Particular Calling

- To proclaim this Gospel to the Gentiles
- To make known to everyone that Gentiles are coheirs and members of the one body

8 To me...this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles...9 and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God...

6 This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body...

EPHESIANS 3:8-9, 6

Chapter 3: Paul's Particular Calling

Paul's calling (and suffering) was for their benefit

1 For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus <u>on behalf of you</u> Gentiles—

13 So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering <u>for you,</u> which is your glory.

EPHESIANS 3:1, 13

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Chapter 4

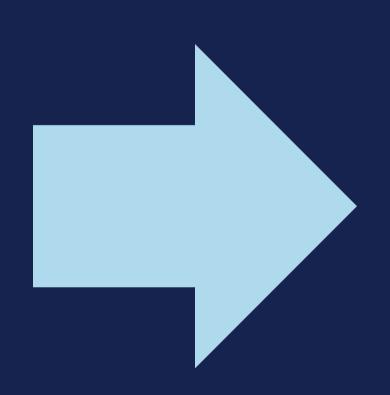
Walk
Worthy of
Our Calling

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

REVIEW

Chapters 1-3

Christ's Work



Chapters 4-6

Our Response

What's Our Calling?

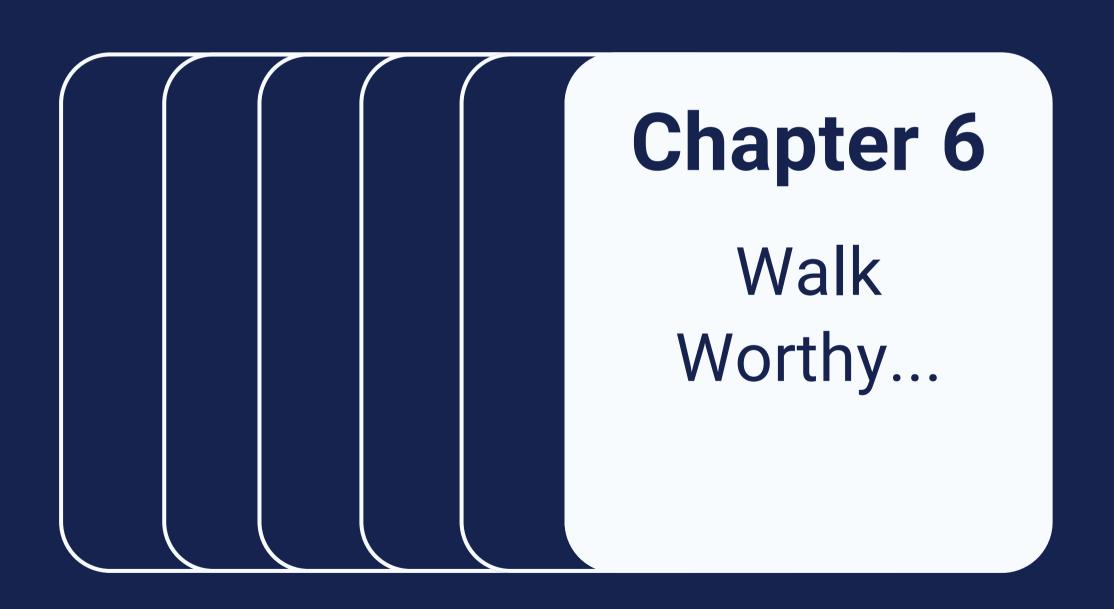
The Book of Ephesians



25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

The Book of Ephesians



1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. 14 Stand therefore...

18 Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints

Chapters 5 & 6: Walk Worthy of Our Calling



CHAPTER 4

Walk Worthy of Our Calling

In the Body of Christ

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, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 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. 7 But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

11 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...

14 So that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

What does it mean to walk worthy of our calling in the Body of Christ?

It means

We all grow up in every way into Christ

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ

We all grow up in every way into Christ

This happens when we all are functioning properly in the roles Christ has given us

From whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

"JOINT"

Literally: ligament

So that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

From whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

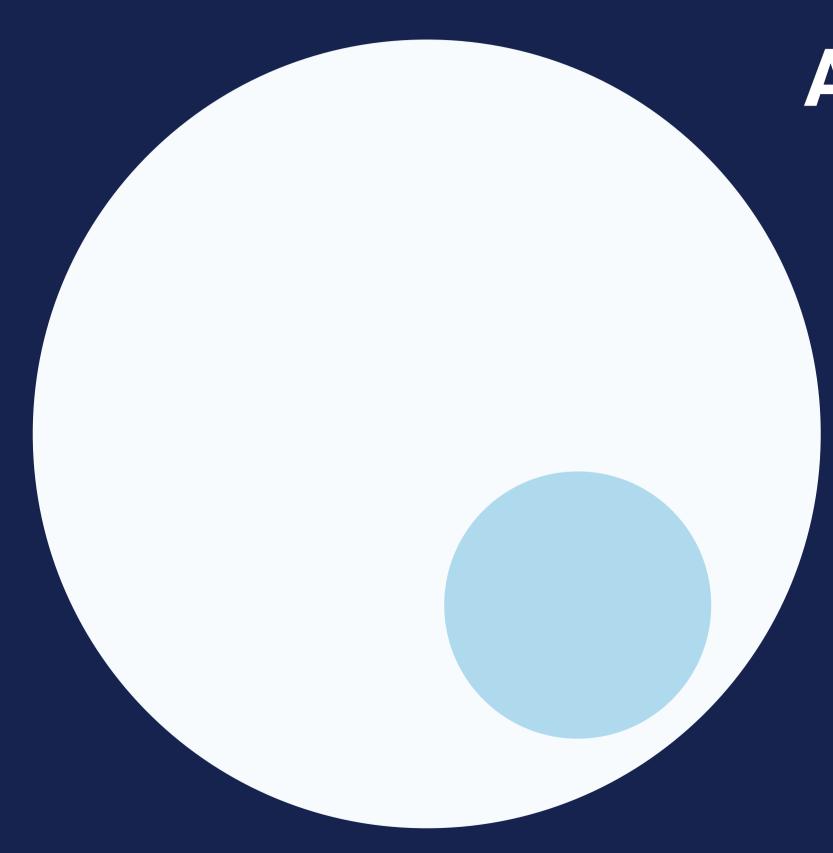
We all grow up in every way into Christ

2

Christ has given some parts of the body whose role is equipping the body to carry out their functions

11 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ

"Saints" = "Holy Ones" All Believers



All the Spiritual Gifts

- Romans 12:4-8
- 1 Cor. 12:4-11
- Ephesians 4:11

Equipping Gifts

• Ephesians 4:11

We walk worthy of our great calling when each one is fulfilling their ministry so we all grow up into maturity in Christ the head

Are you carrying out your ministry?

