MESSAGE OUTLINE



The Power You've Missed

Ephesians 4:1-6 NKJV

Introduction: Motivation Mentioned

In ch. 1-3, Paul wrote about believers, as "You are chosen," "You are sealed," "You are seated", etc.

This story about the Ephesians is not just about them, their origin story is also your origin story.

Paul gave one command in the first three chapters: remember what you are, and what you are made of.

Starting in chapter 4, he will give 40 imperatives of how to walk as a follower of Jesus Christ.

MEMORIES OR NOT – ***1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called***

Paul wants us to walk worthy of that calling. This calling is not an individual call between you and God.

Ephesians 4:4 we are "called to one hope..." **Colossians 3:15** we are "called in one body..."

It's not just about being "selected"; it's about being "collected" into a new humanity.

If you think you are called but don't strive for unity, you get arrogance.

Paul remembers the hostility that he himself had towards God's people.

All of us had hostility towards God, but also hostility towards our fellow man.

If you are harboring hostility now, then it is not a memory, but a current reality that occupies your mind.

Any disunity within the body of Christ between anyone is sin.

Remember: Satan works in isolation. God's family is called to work in unification.

Do you walk in the way of unity in Jesus Christ, or in the way of Satan in isolation?

MOVING ALONG... – ***2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, 3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.***

Paul gives us four virtues of how we can have unity.

Lowliness: gospel centered humility, in deadness we once walked, no better than any other believer.

Now, we are given life in the power of God above the enemies you once served.

Gentleness is rooted in staying in control, even while having great power.

That we do not lash out or hold grudges when someone sins, even when WE KNOW WE ARE RIGHT.

Longsuffering (patience): suffering towards others, that we do not retaliate for wrongdoing towards us.

Bearing with one another: making allowances for each other's faults, putting others before ourselves.

Lowliness, gentleness, longsuffering, and bearing with one another are all under the umbrella of the love.

> *Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.* **1 Corinthians 13**

We must endeavor to keep the unity. We don't create it, the Spirit produces it. We maintain it in love.

Jesus said: "My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." **John 14:27**

Can you say the same thing to others?

That is how Jesus walked. He was a peacemaker. Is this how you walk? Are you a peacemaker?

MONO MOTTO – ***4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.***

The formula given by Paul is a divine and living unity of God and His people.

- No religion has a God both above us, through us, and living in us.
- No religion says Jesus Christ is both the Jewish Messiah and the Savior of the world.
- No religion baptizes people into the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- No religion is waiting for Jesus the world's Messiah to return.

For Paul, it is the fulfillment of the promise for both the Jew and Gentile, and for both you and "them." And by the way, that "them" is a blank for whoever you are not a fan of, all under One God who is "above all, through all, and in you all".

The Bible says that anyone who calls on the Name of the Lord is saved. Jesus means *Yahweh Saves.*

Our faith says Jesus is the Savior of the World. You and your "them." We are fortunate at TBC.

Do you realize the blessing you have to meet all these different cultures here?

We might think, "These different countries have nothing to do with me." *But the gospel does.*

Whoever believes in the Lord Jesus Christ, will dwell *together* with Him, as His people, forever."

Pastor Joel organizes outreaches with mission teams. **Have you considered being a part of one?**

At the Detention Centers, Pastor Akira and Alex reach many nationals. **Have you considered joining?**

The opportunities are there. Would you consider being part of one?

CONCLUSION - MUCH MORE!

Paul knew something very important we need to see here and not miss.

When a body breaks due to a lack of unity, it becomes immobilized.

We cannot worship the Lord, share the Good News, nor minister and restore to each other, without unity.

It can't happen without unity.

If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? **1 John 4:20**

When you are out of fellowship and don't love each other, it means you are out of fellowship with God.

Paul wants you to remember, and remember what you are and what you are made of...

He says, remember your calling!

Remember the faith you have! If you're truly loving each other there's unity.

ONLY THEN, you are remembering and walking in what you are made of.

Because you are made of God! Who is above us all, and through us all, and in us all. ***God is love.***

INVITATION

Everything you have been through in your life, all the hardship was never to push you away from Him.

God has been using it to bring you closer to Him and give you victory.

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." **1 Corinthians 15:57**

Your past and everything you are made of, is a witness and testimony to the power of God.

Believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Then know your Father of compassion who comforts us in all our troubles.

Believe in the forgiveness of sins, and you will have the power to walk and walk with Him.

Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. **2 Corinthians 13:11 (NIV)**

This is our calling.

LET'S PRAY

Jesse Cesario
Tokyo Baptist Church
December 13-14, 2025

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