

“Preserving our Unity Ephesians 4:1-6

In the first three chapters of Ephesians, the Apostle Paul describes God’s sovereignty in sweeping detail, highlighting how He graciously called us to Himself and blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ. As he turns to application in chapter four, Paul’s practical appeal is that we *walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which we have been called*; namely, that our daily lives would balance and correspond to God’s high calling.

A major emphasis in the application chapters (4-6) of Paul’s letter is on how we relate to one another, beginning with preserving the unity of the Spirit we share in the bonds of peace.

1. To preserve the unity of the Spirit, we must understand how important our unity is _____.

 - Jesus made it a primary focus of _____ for the church. (John 17:11; 21-23)
 - Jesus secured our peace through _____. (Eph. 2:14-17)

2. To preserve the unity of the Spirit, we must practice the _____ needed to maintain it. (Ephesians 4:2)

 - We need humility.
 - We need gentleness.

 - We need patience.
 - We need forbearance.
 - We need love.

3. To preserve the unity of the Spirit, we must do _____ to keep our relationships healthy.

- We are called to be diligent in maintaining our unity. (Ephesians 4:3; Romans 12:18; Matthew 5:23-24)
- We are called to be peacemakers. (Matthew 5:9)

4. To preserve the unity of the Spirit, we must affirm the Biblical truths which are the basis for our unity. (4:4-6)

- There is one body.
- There is **one Spirit**.
- There is one hope of our calling.
- There is **one Lord**.
- There is one faith.
- There is one baptism.
- There is **one God and Father** of us all.