



Ephesians Lesson 4 Chapter 4

In chapters 1-3, Paul thoroughly described our former state as “separate from Christ, excluded from the common wealth of Israel, strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world” (2:12). But, our new position after salvation is “fellow heirs and fellow members of the body and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus...” (3:6). Paul

now goes on in Chapters 4-6 to describe the desired behavior of the “heirs” of such a high position. The Gentiles have had a background saturated with immoral lifestyles, and the Jews had a history of religious behavior but cold hearts toward God. Now, as the body of Christ they were to take on the identity of Christ and live out His life in the world.

READ EPHESIANS CHAPTER 4

- 1. Why would a change of behavior (“walk in a manner worthy”) be expected in those who have received Christ as Savior? See Rom. 6:4-7; Col. 3:10-11; 2 Cor. 5:14-17; Gal. 2:20; 1 John 3:9-10.*

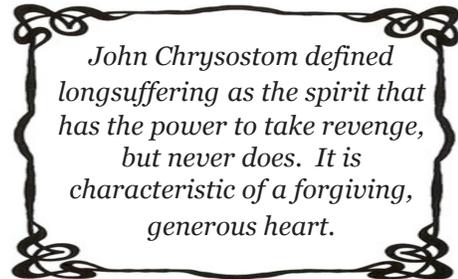
How is this change to be accomplished? Gal. 5:24-25; Rom. 8:8-14

2. From Ephesians 4:2, what four qualities does Paul say should be exhibited by those who are the “called”?

* _____ *

* _____ *

3. Define the above terms in your own words or from a dictionary. According to vs. 3, what should these qualities help us do? How would practicing these qualities help your church? Your home and family?



John Chrysostom defined longsuffering as the spirit that has the power to take revenge, but never does. It is characteristic of a forgiving, generous heart.

4. How are verses 4-6 an example of unity?

Fill in the blanks with verse 7, “But to each _____ of us _____ was given according to the _____ of Christ’s gift.”

5. What is the determining factor for the distributing of spiritual gifts?



The literal Greek in v. 8 says, “Therefore, He says, Having gone up on high he led captive captivity and gave gifts to men.” This is possibly an allusion to the typical victory march that the conquerors of a battle took to publicly display the ones that were conquered to humiliate them (see Col. 2:15). The leader would then hand out some of the booty to his men.

6. *In what way did Christ lead “captive captivity” when He ascended? Psalm 68:18*

7. *What does v. 10 say is the reason Christ “ascended” and “descended”?
See also Eph.1:23.*

8. *List the five leadership gifts Paul states that Christ gave and a definition of each.*

Gift

definition

a)

b)

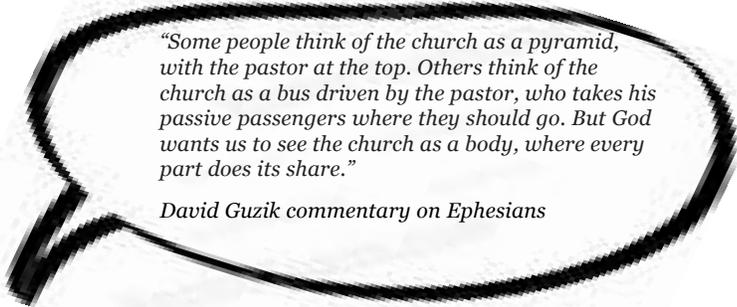
c)

d)

e)

9. *What is the purpose of these ministries? Vs. 12-13*

10. *What should be the result for the body of Christ? Vs. 14-16*



“Some people think of the church as a pyramid, with the pastor at the top. Others think of the church as a bus driven by the pastor, who takes his passive passengers where they should go. But God wants us to see the church as a body, where every part does its share.”

David Guzik commentary on Ephesians

11. *In vs. 17-32 Paul contrasts the “old self” in v. 22, (which he relates to a pagan Gentile lifestyle) and the “new self” in v. 24 (which he says is in the likeness of God). List some of the characteristics of each.*

Old Man

New Man

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
