

Ephesians

How To Be A Faithful Follower of Christ – Part 2

Ephesians 4:1-6 - Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.² Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.³ Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.

⁴ For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. ⁵ There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all.

- **A faithful follower of Christ will not change their commitment level to God based on circumstances.**
- **A faithful follower of Christ will evaluate his own life in comparison to Jesus.**
- **A faithful follower of Christ will be humble at all times.**
- **A faithful follower of Christ will be gentle at all times.**
- **A faithful follower of Christ will be patient even when people are disappointing, frustrating, or even offensive towards us.**
- **A faithful follower of Christ will be understanding, forgiving and encouraging with others who are growing in Christ.**

This level of tolerance will treat others with grace – letting them grow with Christ in different ways and at different paces. This does NOT mean we tolerate sin, wickedness, immorality, and evil. It does mean that we show grace and mercy to others, letting others live their Christian lives in ways that may not be exactly how we think they should. We allow them to develop their unique abilities without fear of being judged.

- **A faithful follower of Christ will seek unity and peace with other believers.**

The Four Enemies of Unity

- 1) Selfishness**
- 2) A judgmental heart**
- 3) A hateful attitude**
- 4) An irritable spirit**

Seven Facets of Unity Among Believers

Ephesians 4:4-6 - For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. ⁵ There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all.

- 1) One body – we are connected through Christ above all else**
- 2) One Spirit – the Holy Spirit is in every believer and acts in accordance with God's Word, not feelings**
- 3) One hope – we will live together forever**
- 4) One Lord – our salvation is through Jesus**
- 5) One faith – we share the same beliefs/doctrines**
- 6) One baptism – our shared public profession**
- 7) One God and Father of all – we are family**