

Applying God's Word

This Week's Passage: Ephesians 4:1-16

Corresponding Sermon from King's Church: "Equipped For Unity"

Opening Discussion

1. Read this week's passage together.
2. Share *your* immediate observations from this text. Was there anything shared in Sunday's sermon that stuck out to *you*?
3. In what ways were you able to see *yourself* in the sermon and in the text?

Going Deeper

1. Paul calls us to walk worthy of our calling in Christ, not in order to earn God's grace but because we've already received it. And that means an eagerness to maintain unity in the body with humility, gentleness, and patience. Discuss with the group how we can practically pursue these virtues in our own church body?

A. Humility?

B. Gentleness?

C. Patience?

2. Jesus is the true triumphant King who dispenses as gifts to his people the spoils won in his victory over sin and death. Paul begins with the gifts of leadership that Jesus has given to the church in order to equip them for ministry and maturity. How can you practically respond to the shepherding, teaching, and oversight of your pastors so that we may be built up? (**1 Peter 5:1-5, Hebrews 13:17, etc.**)

3. In saying the leaders of the church are to equip the saints for the work of ministry, Paul makes it abundantly clear that everyone in the church has been gifted to serve the body so that it might grow in knowledge of Jesus, mature Christ-likeness, and love. How can we each use our gifts for those purposes? How do we make sure we are each using our gifts **properly**? Read **1 Corinthians 12:12-26** together.

Prayer Points

1. Thank God that Christ has not left you to live the Christian life alone but has united you to his body.
2. Ask him to give you a desire and an eagerness to maintain unity and pursue maturity in the body.