

Sermon Outline

A LIFE WORTHY OF THE CALLING YOU HAVE RECEIVED | Geoff Lin

Bible reading: Ephesians 4:1-16 (Page 1667)

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

The God who is rich in mercy
(Chs 1-3)

The God who prepared good works in
advance for us to do (Chs 4-6)

1. "Live a life worthy of the calling you have received" (v1)

- not trying to appease God, but to please Him in every way

2. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit (vv2-6)

i. completely humble

ii. gentle

iii. patient (bearing with one another in love)

Application:

3. Christ gives gifts ... to equip His people for works of service vv7-13

- unity ≠ uniformity

- Ps 68:18

Q1. What are the gifts which Christ gives? (v11)

Q2. What's the purpose of those gifts? (v12a)

"The NT envisages ministry not as the prerogative of a clerical elite but as the privileged calling of all the people of God" (John Stott, *The Message of Ephesians*)

Q3. What's the goal of those works of service? (v12b-13)

- "unity in the faith"

- "unity in the knowledge of the Son of God"

- "become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ"

Application:

This week's memory verse: Ephesians 4:11-13

4. "Speaking the truth in love" (vv14-16)

- all of us need each other if the whole body is to mature

Application:

Podcast: *The Rise and Fall of Mars Hill* (Christianity Today)

<https://www.trinitycity.church/about/policies/#handling-concerns>

Q. Do you need encouragement to (1) speak the truth, or (2) speak the truth in love?

For discussion:

1. What is a work of service to build up the body of Christ you'd like to be equipped for?
2. What do you find hard about "speaking the truth in love"? What might help you?