



## Devotional \_\_\_\_\_

Read Ephesians 4:1-12

Ephesians 4:1-3 ESV

*I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,<sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,<sup>3</sup> eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

This sentence is packed with meaning and significance as it speaks to our conduct with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

The Passion translation phrases verses 2 like this *“With tender humility and quiet patience, always demonstrate gentleness and generous love toward one another, especially toward those who may try your patience.”*

How often do we get annoyed, irritated or angry with one another when things don't go the way we think they should or there is a perceived mistreatment or injustice done to someone?

Paul had just finished praying for the Ephesian believers, that they would be strengthened by His Spirit, know the love of Christ and be filled with all the fullness of God. Now he asks them to walk it out in their relationships with one another. Our strength and ability to respond with self control, patience, love, gentleness, etc. all comes from our life-union with Christ, from the indwelling Spirit who empowers us.

With God's help we are to exercise gentleness and patience, bearing with one another. This does not mean that we shouldn't correct a brother; we are called to correct in love when we see someone go astray or in error. However, let us approach one another with humility and gentleness with the view to maintaining unity and the bond of peace among us.

*“Be faithful to guard the sweet harmony of the Holy Spirit among you in the bonds of peace”* Ephesians 4:3 TPT

## Application

1. What is God saying to you through this passage?
2. When you are wronged, do you respond in a manner worthy of your calling?
3. Think of situations you are in right now. How can you approach these relationships in a way that will guard the unity, harmony and peace among us?

## Prayer

Father, we yield to Your Spirit. Help us to walk in a manner that is worthy of You in all our relationships, **in Jesus' name. Amen.**