

⊗ THE BLESSING OF UNITY • EPHESIANS 4:1-6

I. LET'S WALK TOGETHER! - verses 1-3

A. I'M BEGGING YOU...

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- Ephesians 2:6 (NKJV) - *And raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus...*
 - Ephesians 4:1 (NKJV) - *I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called...*
 - Ephesians 6:13 (NKJV) - *Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*

B. HOW SHOULD WE WALK? - verse 2

- The root word of "meekness" really means "humility," or a spirit that never takes offense.

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- The next word is "Longsuffering." It means literally "to endure with unruffled temper."

- Literally, forbearance means "to put up with."

(over)

C. HOW DO WE MAKE PEACE? - verse 3

1. A Peacemaker Speaks The Truth

- Jeremiah 6:14 (NIV) - *They dress the wound of my people as though it were not serious. 'Peace, peace,' they say, when there is no peace.*

2. A Peacemaker Listens

- Proverbs 8:34-35 (NKJV) - *Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors. For whoever finds me finds life, And obtains favor from the LORD...*

3. A Peacemaker Displays The 'Wisdom Of Tenderness'

- Psalms 145:9 (NKJV) - *The LORD is good to all, And His tender mercies are over all His works.*
- Romans 12:18 (NIV) - *If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.*

- James 3:17-18 (NKJV) - *But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.*

D. THE ROAD TO UNITY - verses 4-6

- "You were called to travel on the same road and in the same direction, so stay together, both outwardly and inwardly. You have one Master, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who rules over all, works through all, and is present in all. Everything you are and think and do is permeated with Oneness." - The Message