

Get to Stepping!
The Epistle of
EPHESIANS

SEPTEMBER

“Wednesday, Word, and Wonders”

THEME
Obedience

Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, III, Senior Pastor
FRIENDSHIP-WEST BAPTIST CHURCH

GET TO STEPPING!

Answering God's Call to Serve

Wednesday, Word, and Wonders

August 2013



A Study

of

EPHESIANS

Rev. William White, Instructor
Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, III, Senior Pastor
FRIENDSHIP-WEST BAPTIST CHURCH

August 7th (7:00pm)
The Epistle of
EPHESIANS

Suitable Walk (Ephesians 4:1-16)

SCRIPTURE AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

4 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ²Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

⁷But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. ⁸This is why it^a says:

"When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people."^b

⁹(What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions^c? ¹⁰He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) ¹¹So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

¹⁴Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

- **What is the calling? (Verse 1)**
- **If I don't value unity in the community, how much will I value humility, gentleness, patience, and tolerance? (Verses 2-3)**
- **What are the purposes of God's gifts of people? (Verses 11-13)**
- **Do you think that unity is connected to maturity? (Verse 13)**
- **What do we act like when we do not speak the truth in love? (Verses 14-15)**
- **Does my communication reveal maturity or immaturity? How can I grow up in my communications? (Verses 15-16)**
- **Does my communication lead to function or dysfunction in the body of Christ? How can I be more functional and helpful for the building of the body? (Verses 15-16)**

August 28th (12:00pm)
The Epistle of
EPHESIANS

Steps to Standing (Ephesians 6:10-20)

SCRIPTURE AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

- **What metaphor does Paul shift to from the metaphor of walking? (Verses 11 & 14)**
- **What do we stand for? What do we stand for? (Verses 10-13)**
- **What does this passage suggest about the realities of spiritual warfare?**
- **What do the pieces of armor represent? Protect? Require of the wearer? (Verses 14-17)**
- **What does Paul call himself an "ambassador in chain?" (Verse 20)**

August 21st (7:00pm)
The Epistle of
EPHESIANS

Sensible Walk (Ephesians 5:15 to 6:9)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How is a sensible walk connected to the Christians use of time? (Chapter 5:15-16)
- What does this command of being "filled with the spirit" requiring of Christians? (Chapter 5:18)
- What are the four evidences or results of being filled with the spirit? (Chapter 5:18-21)
- How are marriage relationships guided by the sensible walk? (Chapter 5:22-32)
- How are parent/child relationships guided by the sensible walk? (Chapter 6:1-4)
- How are working/authority relationships guided by the sensible walk? (Chapter 6:5-9)

August 14th (12:00pm)
The Epistle of
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Substitutionary Walk (Ephesians 4:17-32)

SCRIPTURE AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

¹⁷ So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. ¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. ¹⁹ Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

²⁰ That, however, is not the way of life you learned ²¹ when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

²⁵ Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. ²⁶ "In your anger do not sin!"²⁷ Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ and do not give the devil a foothold. ²⁸ Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

- How different is my thinking and understanding after giving my life to the Lord? (Verses 17-24)
- Am I still trying to enjoy/engage in things that Jesus died to save me from? (Verses 17-20; Chapter 2:1-9)
- What have I laid aside and what have you "put on" that is more like God? (Verses 22-24)
- How does unity affect my motivation to speak truth? (Verse 25)
- What four commands about anger management are given? (Verses 26-27)
- How does saved thinking affect my contribution to community? (Verse 28)
- How does substitutionary walk affect my communication and conduct in the community? (Verses 29-32)
- What is the impact of a saint's unchanged, immature conduct in community? (Verse 30)

August 14th (7:00pm)

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Sacrificial Walk (Ephesians 5:1-6)

SCRIPTURE AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

⁵ ¹Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ²and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

³But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. ⁴Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. ⁵For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.⁶ ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient.

- How does one actually or practically imitate God? (Verse 1)
- How did Christ show His love for us? (Verse 2)
- How do we (ought we) walk in love in the community? (Verse 2)
- What does love have to do with premarital sex, immoral sex, insolent speech, greed, or sexual humor? (Verse 3-4)
- What does love have to do with gratitude? (Verse 4)
- Does our "love walk" lead Christians to hate what God hates? (Verses 5-6)
- If we practice what God hates, what are we loving more than God? (Verse 6; Chapter 2:1-3)
- To live the life God calls us to live, do we need more will power or love power? (Verse 1-6)

August 21st (12:00pm)

The Epistle of
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Sunlit (Son-lit) Walk (Ephesians 5:7-14)

SCRIPTURE AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

⁵ ⁷Therefore do not be partners with them.

⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.¹² It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light.¹⁴ This is why it is said:

"Wake up, sleeper,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."

- How do you manage relationships when you no longer do what they still do? (Verses 7-8)
- Are Christians more inspired by the benefits of walking in the light or influenced by the difficulty of defying the dark? (Verse 9)
- How is walking in the light connected to pleasing the Lord? (Verse 10)
- Why is it important to do more from abstain from darkness when we walk in the light? (Verse 11-13)
- How can those who walk in the light respond effectively when we encounter pushback from those who walk in the dark?