

Living up to our Calling

Ephesians 4:1-16
John 13:3-7, 12-17, 34-35

SJSM Sermon | Ven Wong Tak Meng | 3 and 4 May 2025

Every follower of Christ has a **full-time Calling**

- Mark 3:14 And he appointed **twelve** (whom he also named apostles) so that they might **be with him** and he might send them out to preach...
- Luke 9:23 And he said to all, **“If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.**
- Eph. 4:1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge **you** (*Greek “humas” is plural: meaning “you all, every Christian in Ephesus”*) to **walk in a manner worthy of the calling** to which you have been called

Living up to our Calling (1/3)

1. To be the One People of God (vv. 1-6)

- Eph. 4:1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Living up to our Calling (1/3)

1. To be the One People of God (vv. 1-6)

- Being “one” means having a shared essence and identity, with a diversity bonded in unity.
- Not constricted in a narrow uniformity.
- Eph. 4:3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Living up to our Calling (1/3)

1. To be the One People of God (vv. 1-6)

- Being “of God” means **we belong wholly to God** and owe to Him our **existence, purpose, allegiance and enablement**.
- Being “of God” also means **we model our nature and character after His: Father, Son and Holy Spirit** in perfect consistency of **character and purpose, and in mutual submission** to one another (“interpenetration”: perfectly committed to one another).
- Eph. 4:4 There is **one** body and **one** Spirit—just as you were called to the **one** hope that belongs to your call— 5 **one** Lord, **one** faith, **one** baptism, 6 **one** God and Father of all, who is **over all and through all and in all**.

Living up to our Calling (2/3)

2. To be Ministers of His grace (vv. 7-12)

- John 13:14 If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, **you also ought to wash one another's feet.**
- Eph 4:7 But **grace** was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8 Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave **gifts** to men." ... 11 And **he gave** the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, 12 **to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ...**

Living up to our Calling (3/3)

3. To be Matured Witnesses of His Love (vv. 13-16)

- John 13:34 A new commandment I give to you, that **you love one another: just as I have loved you**, you also are to love one another. 35 **By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.**”
- Eph 4:13 until we all attain to the **unity** of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to **mature manhood**, to the measure of the stature of the **fullness of Christ**, 14 so that we may **no longer be children**, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. 15 Rather, **speaking the truth in love**, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it **builds itself up in love**.