

a new way to **LIVE**

WALK, Ephesians 4:1–6 January 27, 2019

CONNECT

1. The Apostle Paul urges us to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which we have been called (Ephesians 4:1). Give some thought to your upbringing—things modeled, lessons learned, ways you have been influenced to live life. Share with your friends or family how your experiences growing up have shaped who you are today. Be specific.

CELEBRATE

2. Revisit Ephesians 1–3. Highlight some of the blessings given us because of the work of Jesus Christ and talk about them. Why might we wish to “walk in a manner worthy” of such things, as Paul urges in Ephesians 4:1?
3. Ephesians 4:2–3 tells us about how we are to walk in a manner worthy of our calling. Carefully weigh each virtue that Paul mentions. Which are most challenging and why do these virtues even matter? Read Galatians 5:22–23 for further consideration.
4. Regarding Ephesians 4:4–6, scholar John Stott penned, “First, the one Father creates the one family. Secondly, the one Lord Jesus creates the one faith, hope and baptism. Thirdly, the one Spirit creates the one body.” Survey Ephesians 3:14–15 (regarding the Father), Galatians 3:27 (regarding Jesus), and 1 Corinthians 12:13 (regarding the Spirit). How do these seemingly separate pieces work together?

CONTRIBUTE

5. Theologians, for ages, have divided Ephesians into two broad sections—chapters 1–3 giving attention to important doctrine and chapters 4–6 to intentional duty as disciples. Scholar E.K. Simpson called it a movement “from the credenda . . . to the agenda.” Chapters 4–6 have a more “exhortation” or “command” feel and this can, at times, be uncomfortable for believers. With 2 Timothy 3:16–17 in mind, how does this make you think or feel and how will you proceed?
6. There is a distinctly Trinitarian quality about Ephesians 4:4–6. What would it look like for you to think “Trinitarian” as you live the life of a disciple of Jesus? Explain in your own words.
7. In what specific ways will you incorporate the virtues of Ephesians 4:2–3 into your life today—at home, within your church, your community and so forth? How will you fine-tune these to reflect the “multicolored wisdom of God” vision that Paul speaks of in Ephesians 3:10?