

Ephesians 4

GIFTS AND GROWTH - 1-16

1-16 - Walking in *response* to the calling

A turn occurs in this chapter after Paul has focused on saints AND church at the end of chapter 3.

A focus on living this life to which we have been called begins in chapter 4. The “secret” that is revealed is that gentiles are now included in the richness of God’s mercy.

it’s likely a baptismal creed that was recited at baptism. An early indication of the Trinity professed - One God (who is father of all), One Lord (Jesus) and One Spirit who is our bond of peace.

When you first look at the church, it’s a collection of sinners. Yet Paul insists that God works in community with people - like you and me - sinners and works on each of us. You don’t have to pass any test to get in. That means that the church is “God’s workshop” - it’s the place where God works on us. Soul craft is not a “finishing school” for people who are well off. Have no illusions about the Church.

Style of life - six items that describe the way of life that we are to live “in style.”

- **humility** - self forgetfulness - tape-i-no-ó - this does take practice. If you are paying attention to swinging a bat you can’t hit a ball. same with a musical instrument. You have to be absorbed into the practice for it to flow.

- **gentleness** - prautes(prah-oo’-tace) - also means **meek** - strength internalized. Jesu

- **patience** -

- **love** - agape

- **peace** - irene

Christians meet to confess unity not to create it.

(verse 8-10 - this is a parentheses; an aside, a quote from Psalm 68 with a madrash)

Verse 7 - It’s all gift. Christ has given us gifts. Charis is used in this passage a charisma (Romans 12:3-12)

Verse 11 - ***Christ gives gifts.*** (He deliberately changed the Psalm text from “receive” gifts to “**giving**” gifts.

(Pastor - as adjective - “Shepherd teachers”)

We must modernize Jerusalem
Detonate the temples
Let them fight over the dust

We will organize in Bethlehem
Able-bodied women
And agnostic headstrong men
Oh, we'll meet at 10

If you lose your fear of God
You are an animal at heart

Show your teeth to everyone
Don't let no one prove you wrong
You are an animal, an animal, an animal

Show your teeth to everyone
Don't let no one prove you wrong
You are an animal, an animal, an animal

We must rearrange reality
Shuffle all the cards
Pair the joker with the queen
Just to make her scream

To destroy all our enemies
Must investigate our friends
Find the ones who don't believe
Hang them from the trees

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Animal
Jenny and Johnny

