

BUILT TOGETHER — WEEK 4

Walk Worthy of the Calling

Pastor Russ Chambers | September 13, 2026

Main Scripture: Ephesians 4:1-16

Connect

ICEBREAKER

Think of a team, crew, or group project where everyone pulled their weight, or one where a few people did all the work. What was it like to be part of that?

Message Snapshot

BIG IDEA

Because of who we already are in Christ, we walk worthy of our calling by maintaining unity with humility, gentleness, and patience, and by contributing the gifts God has given us so the whole body grows up together.

STICKY BOTTOM LINE

Am I someone who strengthens unity or strains it?

REMEMBER THIS

Where are you consuming what God intended for you to contribute to?

KEY TRUTHS FROM SUNDAY

- Paul spends 3 chapters on who we are in Christ before he gives a single command. Grace does not eliminate responsibility; it creates a new reason for it. Obedience is not the price of grace, it is the response to grace.
- A worthy walk starts with one another: humility, gentleness, and patience that bear with each other in love. Biblical community is not finding people who never annoy you; it is learning to love imperfect people like Jesus has loved you.
- Our job is not to originate unity but to maintain it. It is not built around preferences, politics, personalities, or worship styles. It is built around Jesus: one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father.
- Your gift is a grace, not a right, and there are no unnecessary Christians in the body of Christ. In the consumer model, pastors do the ministry and people attend it. In the Ephesians 4 model, leaders equip, believers minister, and the body grows.
- Truth without love can become brutality. Love without truth can become sentimentality. Jesus gives us both. Listen to people who love Jesus more than you, love the church more than you, and love you.

Scripture

Read together: Ephesians 4:1-16

As you read, ask what the therefore in verse 1 points back to, count how many times the word one appears in verses 4-6, and watch for who does the work of ministry in verses 11-12.

Discuss

OBSERVE

- 1 In verses 1-3, what does Paul urge the Ephesians to do, and what attitudes does he list? Which one comes first?
- 2 According to verses 11-12, why does Christ give leaders to the church, and who ends up doing the work of ministry?
- 3 In verses 14-16, how does Paul describe immature believers, and what marks a body that is growing up?

UNDERSTAND

- 4 Pastor Russ said obedience is not the price of grace but the response to grace. What is the difference between those two in everyday life, and how can you tell which one is driving you?
- 5 Pastor Russ pointed out that we are to maintain unity, not create it, and that it is built around Jesus rather than preferences or politics. Why would Paul name humility, gentleness, and patience as the tools for that job instead of agreement?
- 6 Pastor Russ contrasted a consumer model of church with an Ephesians 4 model where leaders equip and believers minister. What would change in a normal week for someone who moved from the first to the second?

APPLY

- 7 Pastor Russ asked, am I someone who strengthens unity or strains it? When you do not get your way with other believers, is your default to get critical, gossip, withdraw, or assume the worst? Where is that showing up right now?
- 8 Do you have anyone who loves Jesus more than you, loves the church more than you, and loves you enough to tell you the truth? If so, when did you last actually listen? If not, what has kept someone from getting that close?

Live It Out

Pastor Russ asked where you are consuming what God intended for you to contribute to. Before next week, name one place where you have been asking who is going to take care of that, and take one concrete step yourself: sign up, show up, make the call, or offer the help. If a strained relationship came to mind tonight, take the first step toward humility, forgiveness, or reconciliation there too, even if it starts at home.

Prayer

- Thank God that He chose, adopted, redeemed, and forgave us before He asked anything of us.
- Confess the ways we have strained unity this week through criticism, gossip, withdrawing, or assuming the worst of people Jesus died for.
- Ask God for growing humility, gentleness, and patience, and the courage to run for the towel and water basin instead of the platform.
- Ask God to make 4 Points Church an Ephesians 4 church, equipped and sent to carry the light of Christ to the least, the lost, and the lonely across our city.

Father, thank You that You settled who we are before You told us how to live. Give us humility that thinks of ourselves less, gentleness that does not need to win, and patience that gives people room to grow. Show each of us where we have been consuming what You meant for us to contribute, and give us faith to take the first step this week. Build us together into one body that looks like Jesus. In His name, amen.

HOST TIP The first Apply question invites generalities, so go first and be specific about your own default. If the room is larger than 8, break into pairs for both Apply questions and come back together for prayer; people say things in a pair they will not say to the whole circle.