



MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

Community Group Material:

Bible Reading: Eph. 4:3-13

Ask one person to pray at the beginning of your meeting.

Check-in

Check in with each other about how everyone is doing.

Bible Reading: Ephesians 4:1-13

Sermon Summary:

Unity, Diversity & Ministry

Paul expands his explanation of the worthy walk in 4:7-13. In verses 1-6 we saw that the new life we have from God has virtues for us to live out as we engage with others. But Paul shows us that this life we are called to live is not based on our own self-efforts, but on who God is. What is the secret to living a worthy walk? Remain in daily relationship with God!

Then in verses 7-13, Paul points out that God has done everything for us to be able to join him in his mission here on earth. First, he has graced each and every one of us with diverse a gift, so we can serve others (unity with diversity). Second, he has provided gifted people to help us to do the work of building up the body of Christ as we serve others (ministry). All we need to do is take the gifted ones' help so we can be more effective in our serving. Will you take the help, or will you just live a solo Christian life?

Discussion:

1. Read Eph. 4:7. What frustrates or hinders us from realizing that we have been given grace and a gift from God to carry out a vital role for his mission?
2. In 4:8b & 11, we can see the gifted people God has given. Who would you say have been some gifted persons who have helped you progress in your Christian walk? In which areas of your walk did they help you?
3. Steven J. Cole says, "One of the most crippling ideas to pervade the church over the centuries is that there is a special class of Christians, called 'clergy,' who do the ministry, while the rest of the church sits back and lets them do it." Speak about the flaw in this mindset.
4. Talk among yourselves about the bus and orchestra analogy. Which view are you more comfortable with and which one means you need to apply yourself much more?
5. Discuss among yourselves how you can more intentionally position yourselves to receive the help from the gifted people at CIT

End with Prayer.

1. **Pray for our positioning ourselves to receive God's help from the gifted people.**
2. **Pray for any needs of people in your group.**