

MORE THAN A CHILD OF GOD Ephesians 4:1-16

INTRODUCTION

A. Review of chapters 1-3

1. God's amazing plan for our _____ --- _____
2. God's amazing plan for His new, redeemed people -- _____

B. Chapter 4 begins the _____ part of this epistle

1. Paul uses many analogies in Ephesians to describe the Christian life

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

2. _____ is a good analogy.

a. some references 5:1, 8; 4:14

b. the reasons

1) For we must come to God as _____ Mt 18:1-4

2) For He _____ us as children 1 Peter 1:23; 2:2

c. But God does not want us _____

3. The characteristics of children

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

4. So be more than a spiritual _____.

I. Because God Requires Our _____ 4:1-3

A. The charge 4:1

1. The charge involves our calling to become God's _____
Eph 1:4-5; 4:13
2. So live worthy of that calling

B. The manner

1. with _____
 - a. the world's way - _____

- b. this involves our _____ toward others
- 2. with _____
 - a. these are not our _____
 - b. these involve our _____ toward others
- 3. with unity through _____
 - a. Mt 5:9
 - b. this involves our _____ toward others

II. Because of God's Character and Will 4:4-6

* God's character involves oneness

- A. Oneness involving the _____ v. 4
 - 1. 1 Cor 12:13 -
 - 2. One hope -
- B. Oneness involving the _____ v. 5
 - 1. Faith in _____ Jn 14:6
 - 2. One baptism
- C. Oneness involving _____ v. 6
 - 1. above all – transcendent and _____
 - 2. through all – _____
 - 3. in all – _____

III. Because God Has Given Gifts to Mature Us 4:7-10

- A The lavish supply by the victorious Son of God
 - 1. Two different ideas:
 - a. Jesus descended into _____ (cf. Lk 16:19-31) and lead out _____ (cf. 1 Peter 3:18-10)
 - b. Jesus descended to _____ and _____
 - 2. Read Ps 68:18-19 with Judges 5:12 and compare Col 2:13-15.
- B. These gifts to the church are to mature and strengthen us.