Sunday, August 15, 2021

Living Out Your Calling

Ephesians 4:1-3

David H. McKinley

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"There is a marked difference between togetherness and oneness. Togetherness is shared places and spaces, but oneness is the sharing of heart, life, dreams and futures together."

[1]I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called [2]with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love [3]eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. [4]There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call [5]one Lord, one faith, one baptism [6]one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. —Ephesians 4:1-6

The Calling: Every Believer has a Calling on Their Life

We are called to…
- Believe—Ephesians 1:1-2, 7
- Belong—Ephesians 2:11–3:21
- Become—Ephesians 4:1-6, 9
- Battle—Ephesians 6:10-23

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[6]But He gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." [7]Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. [8]Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. [9]Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. [10]Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.
—James 4:6-10

[5]… Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." [6]Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you [7]casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you. [8]Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. [9]Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. —I Peter 5:5b-9

[12]… He said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? [13]You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. [14]If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. [15]For I have given

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you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. [16]Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. [17]If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.
—John 13:12-17

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… [13]until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ [14]so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. [15]Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ [16]from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. —Ephesians 4:13-16

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… [9]making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ [10]as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. —Ephesians 1:9-10

- Sinners tend not to esteem authority.
- Sinners like to write their own rules.
- Sinners are good at convincing themselves their wrongs are not that wrong.
- Sinners tend to believe in their own autonomy.
- Sinners tend to think they are wiser than they are.
- Sinners tend to have a moral code that is formed by more than their desires than by God's law.
- Sinners tend to be self-focused and self-excusing.
- Sinners tend to crave what God has prohibited.
- Sinners tend to opt for short-term pleasure over long-term gain.
- Sinners tend to rebel rather than submit. —Tedd Tripp

We exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. —1 Thessalonians 2:12

[1]And you were dead in the trespasses and sins [2]in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience [3]among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. [4]But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us [5]even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved. —Ephesians 2:1-5

"For three chapters Paul has been unfolding for his readers the eternal purpose of God being worked out in history. Through Jesus Christ, who died for sinners and was raised from death, God is creating something entirely new, not just a new life for individuals, but for a new society. Paul sees an alienated humanity being reconciled, a fractured humanity being united, even a new humanity being created. It is a magnificent vision."
—John Stott

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WARREN
A WAY OF LIFE

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