

# Our Calling

## Ephesians 4:1-16

### December 4, 2016

#### Here's the invitation:

**That I would commit to God and to His Church. That I would ask God, "What is one of these areas of "Called" that needs work in my life?"**

#### Called to walk worthy.

*I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called.*

**Ephesians 4:1**

Called into a relationship with God through Jesus.

Called to "**Follow** Jesus".

Called to **love** others.

Unfortunately, American Christianity has been reduced down to a future reality and the present reality seems be left out altogether. It's often wondered, why Christians don't live the victorious Life? We must teach and disciple the whole Gospel!

*For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

**Hebrews 5:12-14**

"The longer I love, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company...a church.... a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past...we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude...I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you...we are in charge of our attitudes." ~ **Charles Swindoll**

#### Called to be gracious.

*With all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering...*

**Ephesians 4:2a**

Consider that we may not know what others are going through, while at the same time realizing it is good to share with others our plot in life.

#### Called to bear with one another.

*... bearing with one another in love.*

**Ephesians 4:2b**

Includes all faults, quirks, idiosyncrasies, and the life

Don't run from the problem, work it out!

*By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.*

**John 13:35**

#### Called to be one (unity).

*Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

**Ephesians 4:3-6**

One Body

One Spirit

One Hope

One Lord

One Faith

One Baptism

One God

**Called to use our gifts.**

*And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting.* **Ephesians 4:11-14**

**Equipping** of the Saints for the work of ministry.

**Edifying** of the body.

*But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.*

**1 Corinthians 12:20-26**

**Called to speak truth in love.**

*But, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ.* **Ephesians 4:15**

**Called to do our part.**

*From whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.*

**Ephesians 4:16**

We must realize as believers we ALL play an important part in God's plan and in God's Church. When we take our commitment to God and His Church half-heartedly, we suffer, our relationship with God suffers, our family suffers and God's Church suffers!

**Prayer Focus:**

In what area(s) of these "Called" does God need to do work in your life?

Will you commit to God and His Church? Make your membership at Harp's Crossing Baptist Church at Hollonville.

Men and woman, will you commit to love God, love your spouse and lead your family? Kids and students, will you commit to walk with God? Children, will you commit to walk with God?