

## Walk Worthy To Keep the Unity of the Spirit

### Scripture

“I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” (Eph 4:1-3 NKJV)

### Devotion

It is very easy it is to separate from others because of some hurt. If we don't like what someone does to us, we just avoid them. However, God calls us to be lowly and gentle. The idea here is that we endure the goads so that the unity of the Spirit may be preserved.

Very often those people who rub you the wrong way, may unwittingly be God's messenger to correct your waywardness, or to expose some weakness of character. When we resist chastening, things often get worse. “. . . It [is] hard for you to kick against the goads.” (Ac 9:5 NKJV) Meaning, when we kick back like an ox kicks the sharp goads behind his rear legs we will feel the pain of it.

Instead of kicking back, we should respond in gentleness always seeking peace if possible. After all, you are even called to, “love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you” (Mt 5:44 NKJV).

Yes, we are to bear one another in love. The word bear is very expressive. Think of a load you must carry on your shoulder or back. There will be times when others seem to infringe upon your rights. The key to successfully responding in those situations is to remember love. Christ died for us when we were sinners.

We are called to have this same lowliness. As it is written, “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, [and] coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to [the point of] death, even the death of the cross.” (Php 2:5-8 NKJV)

The Christian walk is about mortifying the flesh. It's not easy to do. However, it is possible if you look to Christ.

“Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face evermore! Remember His marvelous works which He has done, His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth, O seed of Abraham His servant, You children of Jacob, His chosen ones! He [is] the LORD our God; His judgments [are] in all the earth. He remembers His covenant forever, The word [which] He commanded, for a thousand generations” (Ps 105:4-8 NKJV).