

## Ephesians 4:1- 16

## Christian Unity

1. State Paul's plea in v 1 in your own words. Paul is in prison for the cause of Christ, because of his ministry to the Gentiles. What effect should Paul's reminder of his imprisonment have upon his readers?
2. With what four virtues (v 2) does Paul describe a life worthy of the name Christian? Which one do you struggle with the most?
3. What knowledge about oneself leads to hu-mility (v1)? See 2:1-3, 12, 13.
4. How does meekness (gentleness) differ from humility?
5. What do patience and forbearing (v 2) mean? Give a practical example of forbearance in a Christian's life. See also Matthew 18:21, 22.
6. When a person walks in humility, meekness, patience, and love, what will result (verse 3)?
7. In verse 3 Paul emphasizes maintaining unity rather than *achieving* unity. What is the nature of the unity to which Paul refers?
8. What is *the one hope of our calling*, the goal to which Christians are proceeding?
9. What diversity exists alongside of the unity just described?
10. What is the source of the talents and abilities (gifts), which individual Christians possess (v 7□9)? How does remembering this fact help us to keep the humility of verse 2?
11. What are the gifts in v 11, 12? What is the pur-pose (v12) behind this diversity of gifts?
12. What weakness of childhood does Paul use to illustrate spiritual immaturity (v 14)? How may we avoid being unstable Christians?
13. Why is Christian maturity never an individual matter? Why is each part of the body of Christ important?
14. What are your spiritual gifts? How are these growing and developing?