

Reading: Ephesians 4:1-3

Topic: Proper Conduct of
All Ministers & Workers

INTRODUCTION: It is a privilege to be involved in the _____ of God in whatever capacity that the Lord has chosen for us, but it also come with a responsibility to _____ our lives in a manner that is pleasing to God, and in a way that will draw people to Jesus, and not chase them away.

I. WITH HUMILITY:

A. The Teaching Of Jesus:

1. Jesus made it clear to His disciples that if they were going to be a _____ of His kingdom, they would need to learn the path of _____ and being a servant first. Mt. 18:1-4
2. This teaching was contrary to the nature of people who were looking for a _____ of power and prestige as was the practice of many _____ in those days. Matt. 20:25-27

B. The Epistle:

1. This word "lowliness" is translated as "humility" which is a required _____ to be effective in the Kingdom Of God and is the opposite of _____ or lifting oneself up above others. I Pt. 5:6
2. The Word of God instructs us to humble ourselves which is a _____ thing to do, for if we do not humble ourselves, God will work out circumstances and He will be the _____ to do it. Mt. 23:12
3. If we learn the _____ of humility, we will become anointed and effective in any ministry that the Lord places us in.

II. WITH MEEKNESS:

A. Gentleness:

1. The word "meekness" in this passage is also translated as "gentleness" the opposite of _____ and forcefulness, which the Word of God states that we in ministry must _____ from. 2 Tim. 2:24
2. The way of the world is to be overbearing, forceful and harsh, but Jesus was clear in His _____ about who is going to _____ the world one day. Mt. 5:5

B. Fruit Of The Spirit:

1. One of the manifestations of the fruit of the Spirit is the quality of _____, apart from which a minister of any kind will not be effective and compassionate towards _____. Gal. 5:22,23
2. The answer to a lack of meekness is to _____ more and be filled with the Spirit which if we allow it to work in us will produce that which is pleasing to God and glorify Him through our actions. Ps. 18:35

III. WITH LONGSUFFERING:

A. Patience:

1. This word "longsuffering" is also translated as "patience" which is also another part of the _____ of the Spirit of God working in our lives and is a part of the character of _____ Himself. 2 Pt. 3:9
2. Jesus taught that our conduct in regards to the matter of longsuffering towards _____ will be also a measure of how we will be dealt with by the Lord when it comes to being judged. Mt. 7:2
3. We all have been beneficiaries of the longsuffering of the _____ and of His patience with us as

we have made mistakes and slipped and _____ at times in our walk with Him. I Jn. 1:8,9

B. Longsuffering With Others:

1. God will see to it that we will have to pass a longsuffering _____ at various points in our walk with Him, and He will place _____ in our path that will require our being longsuffering with them in their immaturity in the Lord.
2. Jesus Himself was longsuffering and patient with the twelve disciples that He _____ to serve with Him in His earthly ministry, and they had to learn the _____ to be like Jesus. Lk. 9:52-56

IV. FORBEARING ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE:

A. Putting Up With:

1. The word forbear translates literally as “putting up with,” which _____ that we discipline ourselves to overlook the _____ of others, realizing that we have some of our own. Mt. 7:3,4
2. We all have our own _____ and dislikes, our own personalities and character, but God made us as Individuals for His purpose and glory, and we must _____ together to get His work done. Rom. 12:18

B. In Love:

1. Again, the key to being able to put up with one another is to be filled with the _____ of God daily through our contact with Him in _____. Rom. 5:5
2. With the _____ of God in our hearts, we can achieve the ability to work with people who have different personalities and habits than we do, and get the _____ of God accomplished.

V. ENDEAVOURING TO KEEP UNITY:

A. Make The Effort:

1. The word “endeavouring” means “making an effort” which is an intentional choice to _____ toward unity, realizing how important it is.
2. The old proverb, “United we stand, divided we fall” is not just a saying, but it is the _____ – the way to destroy any endeavor is to create _____ among the members, causing strife and weakening the forward movement, causing a loss of momentum, and eventually failure. Ecc. 4:12

B. The Bond Of Peace:

1. The context of the word “bond” is “that which ties together” and peace is another part of the fruit of the Spirit, thus the way to have _____ is through the infilling of the Holy Spirit, bringing the peace of God to the Body of Christ.
2. Jesus pronounce a blessing upon the _____ but no blessing for the _____, thus we should be wise and choose to be involved in the former and not the latter. Mt. 5:9

CONCLUSION: These principles of proper _____ listed in Ephesians 4:1-3 can be implemented in our lives personally if we keep in our daily prayer and being filled with the _____ of God.