

Be Church, Part 1

Ephesians 4:1-12

Ephesians 4:1-2 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,

Bee Church – Lessons From A Bee Colony

- 1) Bees are servants of the queen
- 2) Bees function as a community, not as individuals
- 3) Bees have diverse functions

Signs Of An Unhealthy Church

- **Entitlement** – how am I being served is more important than how am I serving others
- **Toxic Culture** – fear and shame motivates rather than grace and love
- **Authoritarian Leadership** – leadership micromanages, is defensive and places pastoral authority over servant leadership
- **Legalism** – non-biblical moral controls are imposed
- **Controlled Narrative** – unwilling to evaluate traditions biblically and avoiding hard questions
- **Hypocrisy** – what's said is different than what's done
- **Rivalries** – competition over partnership
- **Neglects Great Commission** – ignores local and worldwide evangelism and discipleship

A Blueprint For A Healthy Church

Eph 4	Principle	Action
1-2	Dedication Of Individuals	Character Penetrates
3-6	Unification Of Body	Church Integrates
7-10	Implementation Of Gifts	Spirit Emanates
11-12a	Education In Ministry	Pastor Educates
12b-16	Edification Of Body	Maturity Culminates

I. Dedicated To A Christlike Walk (1)

II. Dedicated To A Christlike Heart (92)

- Lowliness: Genuine Humility (2a; Phil 2:3-8))
- Meekness: Submissive Heart (2b; Mt 5:5)
- Longsuffering: Enduring Patience (2c; Heb 12:2-3)
- Forbearance: Tolerating Love (2d; Gal 6:1-2; Rom 15:1-3)

Conclusion:

- We serve Christ our King exclusively, not ourselves
- We emulate the heart of Christ our King
- We function in community as Christ's Body