

**EPHESIANS – THE MYSTERY OF GOD’S CHURCH –
OUR IDENTITY, OUR WALK, OUR WARFARE
PROGRAM 31 (#912211)
WEEK 7 (912347)
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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

**SERIES: Ephesians – The Mystery Of God’s Church –
Our Identity, Our Walk, Our Warfare**

**TITLE: Program 31 – Walk In A Manner Worthy Of Jesus Christ By
Walking In The Spirit**

MONDAY

OPEN

Do people as the expressions go cause you to ruffle your feathers? Do they cause you to get uptight? Do they get under your skin and what do you do when that happens? I mean it’s bound to happen, but the question is how do you handle it when it happens? Do you handle it in a way that shows hey, you aren’t normal. You must belong to Jesus Christ. You must be one of those Christians.

PART ONE

How important, Beloved, do you think character is to the Christian? I will tell you this that when you read the epistles, when we study Ephesians chapter 4, 5 and 6, you’re going to see that character is critical. Character

and conduct and lest you think that you can’t walk as Christ walked then you don’t understand what happened in Ephesians chapter 1, 2 and 3 because it’s in those chapters that God tells you who you are and what you have in Christ Jesus. Now we’ve come to Ephesians chapter 4 and as we come to Ephesians chapter 4 remember this is a pivotal point in the book. We are turning from the teaching to the living out of these truths. We’re turning from doctrine to duty. How do I live in the light of these truths? And the first thing that he’s going to deal with he’s going to deal with our character. He tells us I, “**...I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you...**” I am begging you, I am beseeching you that you would “**...walk in a manner worthy of the calling [that] you have...**” in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 4:1) Now when he’s talking about worthy you can think of those old fashioned scales with the weights, with the little dishes on each side where they would put the weight or measure out the gold or measure out the silver, measure out the stones and he says, “[You are to walk in a manner worthy having the same weight as your high calling that you have in Christ Jesus.] (PARAPHRASE, Ephesians 4:1) And then he tells us what our character is to be like. [He says we are to walk in humility and we looked at that in our last program. We’re to walk with gentleness. We are to walk with patience. We are to show tolerance to one another in love and this is where we want to start today.] (Paraphrase, 4:2) We want to start with gentleness. Now the word for gentleness in the Greek is “p-r-a-u-t-e-s” and the reason I’m telling you that is because if you would go to a concordance or you would go to the King James Version, you wouldn’t see the word gentleness, you would see the word meekness. And honestly if I were going to translate it because I think of the way we think today, I wouldn’t translate it gentleness. I’m not a scholar, okay. So just know this, I’m not a scholar. I know the word of God. I study the word of God. But I mean I don’t have the academics behind me to back it up. But if I were going to translate it I would translate it meekness although sometimes people think that meekness is weakness. But I would

want people to understand that it is not just being oh, bless your heart. Oh, being gentle. Patting the cat gently, patting the dog, patting your shoulder. Not just being this way. But it is more an in wrought grace of the soul. When you think of prautes, when you think of what’s translated gentleness and was translated meekness, it was something that was counter culture in that day and really in a sense is counter culture in our day because people today are anything but meek. And they’re anything but gentle. They’re anything but prautes and what that means is this. That I am going to accept all of God’s dealings with me without retaliation. I’m going to accept them in a submissiveness knowing that what God wants to do is work this out in my life as I come under His control. One of the ways that they use this word prautes back in biblical times is they would use it forgetting a bridle on a horse and holding that bit in and holding those reins tight so that they took the horse with all of it’s muscle and all of it’s power and they reigned it in and this is what he’s talking about here. He says look, you belong to Jesus Christ and because you belong to Jesus Christ, this is the way you’re to walk. You are to walk in a manner worthy having the same weight as Jesus. You are to walk in humility. Now we saw that that humility is just like it says in Philippians 2. **“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus; who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God. (Philippians 2:5-6, KJV)** But **“...He humbled Himself...,”** He brought Himself low and He **“...became obedient unto death, even the death of a cross.” (Philippians 2:8b)** Now Jesus says in the gospel, [“Oh all of you, that you weary and heavy-laden come to Me.] **Take My yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek...**” King James Version, I am gentle and I am **“...lowly of heart.” (Matthew 11:28-29, KJV)** So there was that meekness. When you think of Jesus Christ, you can just think of all the power of God. I mean He’s equal with the Father. And all that power of God and all that authority because there’s a difference between power and authority. Power is the ability to do it. Authority is the ability to execute it or

command it. So think of all that power. Think of all that authority. Think of the fact that that He is God and [He was there in the beginning and all things came into being by Him and through Him so that nothing came into being except by Him] (PARAPHRASE, John 1:2-3) as John chapter 1, verses 1 and 2 says. So think of all of that being reigned in so that He walks in this gentleness. Do you see gentleness today? Do you see it in society? Do you see it in the way that people react with one another, talk to one another? Do you see it in the midst of conflict? Or in the midst of of disorganization? Do you see it when the plane is late and when it’s been delayed not once, not twice but three times and you think why can’t this airline get their act together? You know, let’s just get on the plane and go. Well they’ve got a mechanical difficulty if they’re telling you the truth. The question is when you’re standing there are you reacting like everybody else is reacting? If you are you are not walking in a manner worthy of the high calling that you have in Christ Jesus. And many times I have stood at those counters and I have watched people lambaste, I mean just lay low the representative of that airline as they try to get you on another plane or whatever and just cut them down and there are times when I have leaned over privately and just said, “I am so sorry. I know that you’re doing what you can and I know it’s not your fault there’s a mechanical difficulty. I know it’s not your fault that the pilot didn’t show up or the flight attendants didn’t show up,” “I’m just sorry and I just I want to apologize to you for them.” A kind word, an action like that and they just look at me and I’m not telling you this to brag on me. I’m just telling you that I am this kind of a person. I mean I am a high energy kind of person. And yet I realize that as I am standing there that I am a representative for Jesus Christ and people will often say to me, “You are so sweet. You are so kind. Oh, thank you so much.” Well that ought to be true of us at all times. We ought to be sweet. We ought to be kind. We ought to be gentle. We ought to be meek and this is what he’s talking about here. Now let’s go to Ephesians chapter 4. Let’s open the book. Let’s look at these

words because they’re so important and remember if you haven’t downloaded the study guide for Precepts For Life for the study on Ephesians. It is not too late. It is never too late because the goal of this program is to help you, Precious One, discover truth for yourself. Why, because Jesus prayed for you. He prayed, [“Father, sanctify them.” Set them apart. Make them different. PARAPHRASE, John 17:17) “**Sanctify them** [through Thy] **truth....**” And then He made this statement. “...[Thy] **word is truth.**” (John 17:17) And as you study along with me is you’re going to see yourself being sanctified. You’re going to see yourself as Ephesians later says [being cleansed with the washing of the water of God’s word.] (PARAPHRASE, Ephesians 5:26) The more time that you spend in this book studying this book and I mean not just reading it quickly and forgetting what you read. If you get our study guide, you’ll learn how to read this book. You’ll learn how to mark the text. You’ll learn how to have it go deep in your heart and eventually you’ll see it transforming you. I mean this is what I hear all the time. Men come to our men’s conference and the women are calling and saying, “What did you do to my husband?” Well what we did to your husband was put them in the Word of God and they learned how to study it and they spent time in it. I mean we’re in the Word. We open the Book and any conference we ever have, any place you ever go with us you’re gonna learn how to open the Book and you’re gonna learn how to get truth whether it’s a teen conference or a student conference or whether it is teaching children how to study. You’re gonna learn how to open the Book and when you do the Book is gonna get into you. So he says, “...**you** [are] **to walk in a manner worthy....**” (Ephesians 4:1b) You are to walk with humility. You are to walk with gentleness and you are to walk with patience. Now this word for patience means, in a sense. You’re not gonna just jump on a person. You’re not gonna c-have a quick retort but you’re going to be able to go along and not explode. There’s going to be a patience there with that person that does not quickly get aggravated. Yeah we need to talk about

that, don't we? We really need to talk about that because we're living in a very impatient world. I mean you're at a light. The horn is honking. You're not going fast enough. Somebody's going passed you. They're raising their fist or they're raising something else. I mean, people are just on short fuses. You don't need to be and we'll talk about that when we come back. Listen now to this important announcement.

PART TWO

Welcome back, Beloved. Thank you for studying with me. Thank you for hungering and thirsting after righteousness. Thank you for longing to know God's Word because I pray that God would just draw people to us that are hungry to know truth for themselves and I pray that God will create in the hearts of people such a hunger, such a longing to discover truth for themselves. So thank you. Well, now let's go back to Ephesians chapter 4. He tells us **"...to walk in a manner worthy of the calling..."** that we have in Christ Jesus. **(4:1b)** And when you look at these attributes and when you look at humility, when you look at gentleness, when you look at patience and showing tolerance for one another in love really, as you look at the life of Christ this is what you see. This humility, this lowliness of mind, this gentleness and remember I told you it's really the word meekness in the sense that it is a strength that is born of character that is able to restrain itself and to accept all of God's dealings with us as good without disputing, without retaliating. It is something that gives you an equanimity. I said a big word, didn't I? Of spirit, a calmness of behavior and then the patience means I'm gonna be slow to avenge wrongs. It means that I'm not gonna be hot tempered. I'm not going to come along and just slap you, smack you, cut you down. And this is something that I find myself having to watch especially when I'm under a lot of pressure, especially when I'm in a hurry and I live at Precept Ministries International. My husband and I are the co-

founders of this ministry and I write a lot of courses and I work with our teaching team and I take people and teach them in Israel along with our team and Greece and Rome. We study Romans in Rome and all of this. And then I speak in different places and I’m on some Boards. And so I find myself living like this. And when I am not careful and remember whose I am and everything, I can get uptight and I can lack patience and I have to be very careful because before I came to know Jesus Christ I had quite a temper. I mean, quite a temper. And so God has brought that under control. Has He brought it under control in you? Well, when I start to spout off or when I start to get upset God reminds me by His Spirit hey, listen to Me very carefully. You’re to walk under the control of My Spirit. If you walk by the Spirit, you will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. Well now remember in Ephesians chapter 1, we saw that we are sealed with the Holy Spirit. That the Holy Spirit comes and lives inside of us and we have seen by going through and looking at the scriptures for instance in chapter 3, verse 16 that we have [power through the Holy Spirit that’s in us.] (PARAPHRASE, Ephesians 3:16) So we have the power to live righteously. We have the power to live the way that we are supposed to live but it’s all by the Spirit. And you’re gonna see later on in Ephesians chapter 5, verse 18, that we’re to be filled with the Holy Spirit. In other words we’re to be controlled with the Holy Spirit. So he’s going to tell us truth in several different ways. But if you go to Galatians and Galatians comes before Ephesians. If you go to Galatians chapter 5, listen to what the fruit of the Spirit is. When it’s talking about fruit it’s saying this is what the Spirit produces when He’s in control in your life, when He’s filling you and it says in verse 22, **“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace...,”** and there’s that word, **“...patience....”** (Galatians 5:22) **“...patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness...,”** and there’s that word **“prautes,”** that word meekness and then, **“...self-control; against such ...there is no law.”** (Galatians 5:22b-23) You don’t need any laws to govern you in this because you have the

Holy Spirit and if you walk this way then there’s no law that you’re going to break. And so going back to Ephesians he says this is your character. If you’re gonna walk in a manner worthy of your high calling it’s a matter first of all of character. It says, “**...walk...with all humility...gentleness...patience...,**” now watch, “**...showing tolerance for one another in love.**” (Ephesians 4:1-2) Now this showing tolerance for one another in love is very, very interesting because what he’s saying is this. That I look at you and there are things about you that irritate me. There are things about you that get under my skin and they ruffle my feathers. Why, because it’s not what I want you to do. It’s not the way I want you to react. It’s not the way I want you to respond. Maybe it’s with your kids. Maybe it’s with your husband. Maybe it’s with your wife. Maybe it’s with your boss. Maybe it’s with those that are under you but whoever it is, you have to remember hey, I’m standing there as a representative of Jesus Christ. I am part of the body of Jesus Christ. I am part of the household of God. I am part of the holy temple of God and therefore whatever the irritation is I need to show tolerance for one another in love which means this. That with all your idiosyncrasies and they’re probably not idiosyncrasies but they’re idiosyncrasies to me with all your idiosyncrasies, with all your irritations, all your things that I just don’t think that you ought to be saying or reacting or doing, with all of that if I’m going to walk in a manner worthy of the high calling in Christ Jesus, (Ephesians 4:1) I have to show tolerance to you. And I have to show tolerance to you in love. This is what he’s saying. Now when it says in love I want you to go for just a minute to 1 Corinthians chapter 13 because 1 Corinthians chapter 13 shows us the behavior of love and it says, “**Love is patient, love is kind, [love] is not jealous; love does not brag ...[it’s] not arrogant, [it] does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, [it’s] not provoked, [it] does not take into account a wrong suffered, [it] does not rejoice in unrighteousness...[it] rejoices [in] truth.**” (1 Corinthians 13:4-6) Now listen very carefully. “[Love] **bears all**

things...,” it shows tolerance, “...[it] **believes all things, [it] hopes all things, [it] endures all things. Love never fails....”** (1 Corinthians 13:7-8a) Now this is the distinguishing characteristic of a child of God. God is love. God is in you. You’re in God. You’re in Christ and therefore you are to show tolerance to one another in love. O Beloved, this is how you walk in a manner worthy of the high calling in Christ Jesus. The question is are you walking that way? What do you need to do today? You need to stop and reflect on these words. You need to look at them and consider their meaning and then you need to say, “Hey, am I living this way? Is this the way that I am treating others? Is this the way that I am conducting myself? Is this the character of Christ that I’m displaying to others?” O Beloved, live it, live it. These are His precepts for life and through His precepts you and I please Him.