Practical Christianity Class #4 3/27/11

Review

The conversation actually begins in Chapter 2 ***{Unity}*** **Vs. 11-15** and he picks it up again in Chapter 4

- University (Unity in Diversity)

Eph 4:1

- "therefore" in the context of what I've been saying
- "urge you" Imperative mood
- "**walk** in a manner worthy of the calling" [Eph 1:4 & 18]

Eph 4:2&3 modifier to the command (note that the "*walking*" is in an attitude)

- "in all humility" {see also Col 3:12-15} [in-ward perspective]
- "in gentleness" [out-ward perspective]
- "patience" {patiently "bearing with one another in love"}
- "eager" "to maintain unity" [the bond already exists, we are to protect it]

Eph 4:7&8 {gifts are given}

- "grace was given to each of us" [what does this mean?] {graces are gifts}
- "according to the measure of Christ's gift"
- "and he gave gifts to men"

Eph 4:11-14 {the object of these gifts} **Gifts are always for the common good**

- "Apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds, teachers"
- "to equip" [for what?]
    - "for the work of ministry" [what is the purpose of our ministry/service?]
        - **1Cor 12:7 & 11**
        - **1Peter 4:10**
    - "building up of the body unto unity" [what is the goal?]
    - "Attaining unity of the faith"
    - "Of the knowledge of the Son of God"
    - "no longer be children, tossed to & fro by the waves"
    - "and carried about by every wind of doctrine"

Paul gives us a description of our life as Christians in 4:1-16 with a brief parenthesis vs. 9-11

- In vs. 1 he tells us how we are to walk
- In vs. 17-19 how **not** to walk
    - Futility / emptiness
    - Darkened understanding
    - Alienated from the life of God
    - Ignorance
    - Hardened heart
    - Callous (consider a guitar player)
    - Given over to sensuality (always seeking but never satisfied)
    - Greedy / *Eager* to practice every kind of impurity (consider 4:3)

What happens in a vacuum? {spiritual}

- Phil 4:8 "fill your mind with these things"
- The battle is for *mindshare*
- All of the above are attitudinal (issues of the heart) { Mind, Will & Emotions}

Eph 4:20 "But you" "didn't learn"

Eph 4:23 "to be renewed in the spirit of your minds"