A Worthy Walk (Ephesians 4:1-2)

I. Introduction

- A. Will the real Jesus please stand up!
 - 1. A Mighty Fortress vs. Gentle Jesus, Meek and Mild
 - 2. Matt 11:29 vs. Matt 10:34
 - 3. Matt 12:19-20 vs. Matt 23:27
 - 4. Matt 21:5 vs. Mark 11:15-16
 - 5. Isaiah 53:7 vs. Rev 19:15-16
- B. A Review of the Text: Eph 4:1-6
 - 1. Paul
 - 2. *Walk worthily*: The leading imperative for the last three chapters
 - 3. What does a *worthy walk* look like 3 qualities: *lowliness, gentleness, long-suffering*

II. Walk Worthy of the Calling

- A. worthy
- B. calling
- C. walk

III. Three character qualities essential for unity

- A. Lowliness (humility)
 - 1. modesty of mind
 - 2. a derogatory term associated with slaves
 - 3. exemplified in Christ (Phil 2:5-11)
 - 4. opposite of pride (which leads to contention)
- B. gentleness (meekness)
 - 1. a willingness to surrender rights
 - 2. has a positive connotation thanks to Aristotle
 - 3. gentleness of the strong
 - 4. control over passions

While the humble man thinks little of his personal merit, the meek man thinks little of his personal claim.

- 5. a willingness to gently confront sin
- 6. one who knows himself to be the 'chief of sinners.'
- C. Long-suffering (patience)
 - 1. particularly displayed to people (just as God's patience)
 - 2. impatience breeds division

IV. Application

- A. Unity in a church is established by character, not programs
 - 1. universal church unity through signing treaties
 - 2. local church unity through internal programs
- B. The final goal of all of this is to display the glory of God!