Ephesians 4:1-16

I. Introduction
1. A Transition from Identity to Practice: While Ephesians 1-3 teaches us about the true identity believers have received in Christ—as a gospel-centered community and a family united by the Holy Spirit—Chapter 4 shifts our focus toward the practical outworking of that identity: How should we live in a manner worthy of who we are? (TO BE a Healthy Church)
2. Living Worthy of Our Name: As illustrated by the story of Alexander the Great and the deserter who bore his name, our faith and spiritual maturity must be reflected in the way we live. We must live in a manner worthy of the holy name we bear as Christians.
Question: Are the confession of my lips and the way I live my life fully consistent with one another?

II. Main Body
1. A Church That Pursues Spiritual Unity (Verses 1-6)
1) Living a Life Worthy of Our Calling: As a prisoner for the Lord, Paul urges believers to live in a manner worthy of their holy identity and the calling they have received.
2) Four Virtues That Preserve Unity (Verse 2): Humility / Gentleness / Patience / Love
These virtues are the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) and powerful spiritual weapons for preserving the unity of the church.
3) Spiritual Warfare and the Devil's Strategy of Division: One of the devil's primary objectives is to divide the church. Whenever friction or conflict arises, we must respond not with worldly anger or human impulses, but with the four virtues produced by the Holy Spirit. We must make every effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.
4) The Spiritual Foundation of Our Unity (Verses 4-6): There is one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of all. Therefore, we must strive to live in complete unity within the triune God.

2. A Church That Embraces Spiritual Diversity (Verses 7-12)
1) The Grace of Ministry (Charis / Spiritual Gifts): To every believer who has received salvation, the victorious Christ has graciously distributed gifts and ministry roles.
2) The Essence of Serving: Serving in the church is not merely an obligation or a task (work). Rather, it is a joyful response of gratitude for the grace of ministry—the privilege of being called by the Lord, even though we are sinners undeserving of His grace.
3) The Purpose of Spiritual Gifts (Verse 12): Spiritual gifts are given to equip the saints for the work of ministry and to build up the body of Christ.
4) The Participation of Every Member: The church becomes a healthy and influential community when every member participates according to his or her God-given gifts—not only the pastor, but also those serving in worship and praise, welcoming, practical service, prayer, administration, and other ministries.

3. A Church That Pursues Spiritual Maturity (Verses 13-16)
1) Maturity That Is Not Easily Shaken (Verse 14): We must grow spiritually so that we will no longer be like children, tossed back and forth by every wind of teaching, deceived by human cunning, influenced by false teachings, or carried away by the deceptive trends and temptations of the world.
2) Growing in Love (Verses 15-16): We are to grow in every way into Christ, who is the Head. As each part and member is properly joined and held together, the entire body grows and builds itself up in love, with each member contributing according to his or her God-given measure.
3) The Steps of the Gospel Waltz: Our spiritual journey can be described as a Gospel Waltz
We begin each day with meditation on God's Word and a commitment to obey Him. We stumble and fall as we face the challenges of everyday life. We repent and depend once again on God's grace. We return to the starting point of the gospel—the message of the cross.
Even when we stumble and fall, we must not be deceived by Satan's lies of condemnation. Instead, we must continue dancing the dance of the gospel—a lifelong spiritual struggle toward holiness—until the day the Lord returns. This is what spiritual maturity looks like.

III. Conclusion
Unity: Let us preserve the spiritual unity of the church through humility, gentleness, patience, and love.
Diversity: Let us joyfully build up the body of Christ together, each serving through the spiritual gifts and grace of ministry that the Lord has given us.
Maturity: Even when we stumble and fall each day, let us continue dancing the Gospel Waltz and keep growing toward the full measure of the stature of Christ.

Bible Memorization

A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ (Ephesians 4:15)

Bible Reading

11/2(Mon)	11/3(Tue)	11/4(Wed)	11/5(Thur)	11/6(Fri)	11/7(Sat)	11/8(Sun)
Luke 10-11	Luke 12-13	Luke 14-16	Luke 17-18	Luke 19-20	Luke 21-22	Luke 23-24

QT

Quiet Time Passage

11/2(Mon)	11/3(Tue)	11/4(Wed)	11/5(Thur)	11/6(Fri)	11/7(Sat)	11/8(Sun)
sPhilemon 1:25-35	Amos 1:1-8	Amos 1:9-15	Amos 2:1-8	Amos 2:9-16	Amos 3:1-8	Amos 3:9-15

Sharing Questions

1. Share one thing from today's sermon that you newly understood or that especially blessed you.

2. What are the four virtues Paul identifies in Ephesians 4:2 as essential for preserving the unity of the church? Which of these virtues do you believe you need to develop most in your own life, and why?

3. What are the spiritual gifts and the grace for ministry that God has given you? How can you use these gifts to serve and build up the body of Christ?

4. What does it mean to you to grow in spiritual maturity by continuing to dance the "Gospel Waltz," even when you stumble and fall in your daily life?