



LOOKING UP!

By Matt Huddleston

You don't see them on the playground much anymore, but I used to love the teeter-totter. The balance and the simple joy of two friends chatting and rocking back and forth together was enjoyable. Unfortunately, sometimes a BIG bully would get on and leave me stuck high in the air. The imbalance took the fun away!

The biblical Greek word Koinonia means fellowship, love, and interaction. Koinonia is reflected in our relationships with one another and with God. The love and respect we are to have for one another should bring us to interact together and in a way that mutually lifts each person up. There are no bullies in a Koinonia family.

Listen to a few of the balanced and interactive ways we are to be with one another. Look up and see the Father drawing us together.

- ◆ Care for one another
- ◆ Teach and admonish one another
- ◆ Bear one another's burdens
- ◆ Serve one another
- ◆ Encourage one another
- ◆ Be hospitable to one another
- ◆ Love one another
- ◆ Pray for one another
- ◆ Be at peace with one another

SERMON NOTES

Bound In Peace

August 1



_____ is _____ when we are _____ in _____.

_____ is the outcome when we set our values on high _____.

B _____	1	S _____
H _____		L _____
F _____		F _____
B _____		

- ◆ Notice the _____, _____, and _____
 - ◇ The desire of _____ and _____ are united by _____.
 - ◇ The path of the _____ and the faithful is unified by _____.
 - ◇ _____ God unites the diversity of _____ and _____.

My Action: I want to be _____

This week I will work on _____

_____ rules the _____ when _____ rules the _____.

AUG. 8, 2021 EPH. 5:21

Next Week: **SUBMITTING TO EACH OTHER**

MATT HUDDLESTON

PERSONAL STUDY

It is rewarding to invest time each day in God's Word.

Mo Ephesians 4:1

Lincoln once said, "Don't worry when you are not recognized, but strive to be worthy of recognition." Do you believe you are worthy? What does it mean to live a life worthy of the calling?

Tu Ephesians 4:2

Comedian Phyllis Diller joked, "Aim high, and you won't shoot your foot off." Paul seriously teaches, "Aim to be completely humble, gentle, patient and loving." Which quality will you aim to improve

We Ephesians 4:11 & 16

Christ has given us differing roles and responsibilities. Each part has work to do. What is your role? What part do you play in the body? Thank God for this role, or ask him to help you identify this role.

Th Ephesians 4:22-24

As a Christ-follower you are a new creation. Let God's Spirit convict you of ways you are letting the old self live and reign in your life.

Fr Ephesians 4:29-30

Again, let God's Spirit direct you today. Reflect on your words, your tone, and your attitude. Are you one who reflects Christ in your words, your tone, and your attitude?

Sa Ephesians 4:32

Just as in Christ, God forgave you. Give thanks for God's gracious forgiveness. Pattern your life after Christ. Be drawn to him. Be like him. Be kind and compassionate to one another.

STUDY & DISCUSS

- Read Ephesians 4.
 - ◇ Notice the repeating themes below. Discuss what Paul is presenting about each idea and why they need to be together.
 - ◆ Unity, Grace, the Father, the Son, the Spirit, body, and life
- Reflect on the two stories in today's sermon. One told about a young man enjoying a peaceful day on the dock, and the other was of two friends injured on a battlefield. How does the concept of peace differ in these two stories? Which one more closely represents Paul's term "a bond of peace"?
- How do you respond to this quote by Jimmy Jividen? "One does not choose his brother. He can only recognize him as a brother when God recognizes him as a son."
- Is it true that "love is the symbol by which the world will recognize the disciples of Christ?" Discuss why or why not.
- A Christ-follower is called to interact with other believers. See the list of some of the biblical examples (p. 5) of how we should interact with each other. How do you see the Church today, are we involved more as givers or takers?
- How are the actions of giving and receiving vital to a godly practice of love and fellowship?
- Identify and share one way you will get rid of the sinful traits listed in Ephesians 4:31.
 - ◇ To follow Christ's example, who is one person you can be more kind, more compassionate, or forgiving to this week?