


Growing Up in Christ:
God's Gracious Invitation to a Life of Spiritual Maturity
Keen Kamp, July 21-26, 2024
Monday, July 22

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LIGHTHOUSE
CHRISTIAN CAMP

**Growing Up in Christ:
God's Gracious Invitation to a
Life of Spiritual Maturity**

Keen Kamp 2024
July 21-26, 2024
Doug Cullum, PhD
Northeastern Seminary
at Roberts Wesleyan University


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**Growing Up in Christ:
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to a Life of Spiritual Maturity**

- Sunday Night: *Five-Minute Overview*
- Monday, 9:45a: *God's Gracious Provision*
-- Ephesians 1:1-14
- Tuesday, 9:45a: *From Death to Life*
-- Ephesians 2:1-22


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**Growing Up in Christ:
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- Wednesday, 9:45a: *Immeasurably More*
-- Ephesians 3:14-21
- Thursday, 9:45a: *The Gift & Goal of Growing Up*
-- Ephesians 4:1-16
- Friday, 9:45a: *Glimpses of Life As it Was
Intended to Be*
-- Ephesians 4:17-6:20


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**God's Gracious Provision
Ephesians 1:1-14**

*³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly
realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ . . .
¹⁴ . . . To the praise of his glory!"*

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**God's Gracious Provision
Ephesians 1:1-14**

I. A Purposing Grace that *Chooses* (4)

- Chosen
- Chosen by God
- Chosen "in Christ"
"before the foundation of the world!"
- Chosen for a purpose
"to be holy and blameless"

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**God's Gracious Provision
Ephesians 1:1-14**

II. A Preventive Grace that *Calls* (5, 11-12)

- "Destined"/"Predestined"
 - For adoption as God's children (5)
 - To be for the praise of God's glory (12)
- "Pre-programmed"
- A "gracious ability"

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**God's Gracious Provision
Ephesians 1:1-14**

III. A Pardoning Grace that *Embraces* (7-8)

- "Redemption through his blood"
- "The forgiveness of our trespasses"
- "According to the riches of God's grace"
- "That he lavished upon us!"

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**God's Gracious Provision
Ephesians 1:1-14**

IV. A Preserving Grace that *Keeps* (13-14)

- Marked with a seal:
 - "the promised Holy Spirit"
 - "the pledge of (or deposit guaranteeing) our inheritance!"

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**God's Gracious Provision
Ephesians 1:1-14**

God's Gracious Provision

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**God's Gracious Provision
Ephesians 1:1-14**

Open Dialogue

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**From Death to Life
Ephesians 2:1-22**

"⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ . . . ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God."

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**From Death to Life
Ephesians 2:1-22**

I. Our Life *without* Christ (2:1-3)

- Our Condition:
"Dead in trespasses and sins" (1)
- Our Practices:
"following": (2)
 - *"The ways of the world"*
 - *"The ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit at work among the disobedient"*

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**From Death to Life
Ephesians 2:1-22**

I. Our Life *without* Christ (2:1-3)

- Our Condition:
- Our Practices:
- Our Nature: *"All of us" (3)*
 - *"gratifying the passions of our flesh"*
 - *"children of wrath/deserving of wrath"*

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**From Death to Life
Ephesians 2:1-22**

II. Our Spiritual Position *with* Christ (2:4-10)

- The Provision: (4-5) *"But God..."*
 - *"rich in mercy"; "great love with which he loved us"*
- The Description: (5-6)
 - Made Alive with Christ (5)
 - Raised Up with Christ (6)
 - Seated with Christ (6)

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**From Death to Life
Ephesians 2:1-22**

II. Our Spiritual Position *with* Christ (2:4-10)

- The Provision: (4-5; 8-9)
- The Description: (5-6)
- The Purpose: (7, 10)
 - The continuing manifestation of the grace of God in Christ for the indefinite future!
 - The recovery of God's creative intention

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From Death to Life
Ephesians 2:1-22

III. Our Present Existence *in Christ* (2:10-22)

- A People of Memory: (11-13)
 - Who we were: (12)
 “without Christ”; without hope”; “without God”
 - Who we are: (13)
 “But now...brought near by the blood of Christ”

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From Death to Life
Ephesians 2:1-22

III. Our Present Existence *in Christ* (2:10-22)

- A People of Memory: (11-13)
- A People of Peace: (14-18)
 - A Christocentric Peace:
 - “He is our peace” (14)
 - “in His flesh” (14)
 - “create in Himself” (15)
 - “through the cross” (16)
 - “through Him” (18)

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From Death to Life
Ephesians 2:1-22

III. Our Present Existence *in Christ* (2:10-22)

- A People of Memory: (11-13)
- A People of Peace: (14-18)
 - A Christocentric Peace
 - A Boundary-abolishing Peace:
 - “broken down the barrier...the dividing wall of hostility” (14)
 - A Unifying Peace:
 - “made the two one” (14); “one new humanity” (15); “one body” (16)

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From Death to Life
Ephesians 2:1-22

III. Our Present Existence *in Christ* (2:10-22)

- A People of Memory: (11-13)
- A People of Peace: (14-18)
- A People of Place: (19-22)
 - A new citizenship (19)
 - A new family (19)
 - A new pedigree (20)
 - A new dwelling (21-22)


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From Death to Life
Ephesians 2:1-22

From Death to Life

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From Death to Life
Ephesians 2:1-22

IV. The Ongoing Open Dialogue

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Wednesday, July 24

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Immeasurably More
Ephesians 3:14-21

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine . . ."
(Ephesians 3:20)

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Immeasurably More
Ephesians 3:14-21

I. The Source of Spiritual Renewal:
God's Glorious Riches (16)

- It's not something *you* can do!
- It's God-given
- The supply is limitless

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Immeasurably More
Ephesians 3:14-21

II. The Place of Spiritual Renewal:
Your Inner Being (16)

- The inner springs of the heart are more important than the greatest accomplishments of our actions, our words, or our reputations
- When our souls are empty, the vitality of our lives will be weak & anemic

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Immeasurably More
Ephesians 3:14-21

III. The Central Reality of Spiritual Renewal: *The Indwelling of Christ* (17)

- "with power through his Spirit"
- "that Christ may dwell in your hearts"

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Immeasurably More
Ephesians 3:14-21

IV. The Ongoing Experience of Spiritual Renewal: *Divine Power* (18-20)

- Spiritual stability: *"rooted and grounded"*
- Spiritual comprehension: *Grasping the ungraspable* eternal dimensions of Christ's love!
- Spiritual fullness

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Immeasurably More
Ephesians 3:14-21

*"Now to him who is able to do **immeasurably more** than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." (Ephesians 3:20-21)*



God's Gracious Provision
Ephesians 3:14-21

Open Dialogue



The Gift and Goal of Growing Up
Ephesians 4:1-16

I. The Gift and Goal of Growing Up: A Life Worthily of our Calling (1-9)
 • Characterized by growth (1-3)
 • A unity (4)
 • A purpose (5-6)
 • A goal (7-9)



The Gift and Goal of Growing Up
Ephesians 4:1-16

I. The Gift and Goal of Growing Up: A Life Worthily of our Calling (1-9)
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The Gift and Goal of Growing Up
Ephesians 4:1-16


II. The Singular Purpose of Christian Ministry (10-16)
 • Grounded in the Gifts of God's Grace (10-11)
 • Characterized by unity (12)
 • A goal (13-16)



The Gift and Goal of Growing Up
Ephesians 4:1-16

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 • Characterized by unity (12)
 • A goal (13-16)

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**The Gift and Goal of Growing Up
 Ephesians 4:1-16**

"Until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ . . . we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ." (Ephesians 4:13-15)

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**The Gift and Goal of Growing Up
 Ephesians 4:1-16**

I. The Biblical Vision of Human Existence:
 A Life Worthy of our Calling (4:1-6)

- Characterized by godly virtues (2-3)
 - "humility" (2a)
 - "gentleness" (2b)
 - "patience" (2c)
 - *forbearance in love* (2d)
 - relentless pursuit of spiritual unity (3)

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**The Gift and Goal of Growing Up
 Ephesians 4:1-16**

I. The Biblical Vision of Human Existence:
 A Life Worthy of our Calling (4:1-6)

- Characterized by godly virtues (2-3)
- Radiant of the Unity of the Holy Trinity (4-6)
 - "one body"; "one Spirit"; "one hope" (4a; cf. also 3)
 - "one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (5)
 - "one God and Father of all" (6)

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**The Gift and Goal of Growing Up
 Ephesians 4:1-16**

II. The Singular Purpose of Christian
 Ministry (4:7-13)

- Grounded in the Gifts of God's Grace (7, 11)
 - Gifts given to all (7)
 - "to each of us"
 - Gifts given to some (11)
 - "some"; "some"; "some"; "some" [μεν ... δε]

[NB: Paul's fuller teaching on spiritual gifts in Ro. 12 and 1 Cor. 12-14]

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**The Gift and Goal of Growing Up
 Ephesians 4:1-16**

II. The Singular Purpose of Christian
 Ministry (4:7-13)

- Grounded in the Gifts of God's Grace (7, 11)
- Experienced in the Spiritual Health of the Body

Note key terms:

- "To equip" (12) (see Mk. 1:19; Gal. 6:1; 1 Cor. 1:10)
- "For building up"
- "Until all come" (13):
 - "to unity of the faith"
 - "and knowledge of the Son"
 - "to maturity . . . the full stature of Christ"

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The Gift and Goal of Growing Up
Ephesians 4:1-16

III. The Corporate Witness of the Body of Christ (4:14-16)

- From immature tossing about to being securely tethered in the centrality of Christ (14-15)
- From unhealthy dysfunction to wholeness in the love of Christ (16)

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The Gift and Goal of Growing Up
Ephesians 4:1-16

"Until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ . . . we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ." (Ephesians 4:13-15)

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The Gift and Goal of Growing Up
Ephesians 4:1-16

Open Dialogue

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Glimpses of Life
As It Was Intended to Be
Ephesians 4:17-4:22

- I. Redeemed and Renewed Behavior (4:17-22)
- No longer live as the Gentiles do
 - Do not walk in darkness
 - Do not give up to the desires of the flesh
 - Do not be angry
 - Do not speak to one another in anger
 - Do not let the sun go down on your anger
 - Do not let anyone see you are angry




Glimpses of Life
As It Was Intended to Be
Ephesians 4:17-4:22

- II. Redeemed Relationships (4:23-32)
- Put on the new self
 - Put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of God
 - Put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of God
 - Put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of God

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 Friday, July 26


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Glimpses of Life
As it Was Intended to Be
Ephesians 4:17-6:20

^{4:23}To be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness . . . ^{5:8}For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— ⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. " (Ephesians 4:23-24; 5:8-9)

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Glimpses of Life
As it Was Intended to Be
Ephesians 4:17-6:20

I. Renewed and Revived Behavior (4:17-5:20)

- No longer this: (4:17-19)
 - "futility of thinking"; "darkened understanding"; ignorance (17-18)
 - "hardness of heart" (18)
 - lost sensitivity (19)
 - abandonment to sensuality (19)

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Glimpses of Life
As it Was Intended to Be
Ephesians 4:17-6:20

I. Renewed and Revived Behavior (4:17-5:17)

- No longer this: (4:17-19)
- But this! (4:20-5:17)
 - Renewed minds (23)
 - A new self according to the likeness of God (24)
 - "In true righteousness and holiness" (24)
 - Godly speech (25, 29, 5:4)
 - Godly attitudes (26, 31-32, 5:1)
 - Godly desires (5:3, 5)

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Glimpses of Life
As it Was Intended to Be
Ephesians 4:17-6:20

II. Redeemed Relationships (5:18-6:9)

- In the Body of Christ (5:18-21)
 - Infilled with the Spirit (18)
 - In the worship of God (19)
 - In gratitude to God (20)
 - In submission to one another (21)

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Glimpses of Life
As it Was Intended to Be
Ephesians 4:17-6:20

II. Redeemed Relationships (5:18-6:9)

- In the Body of Christ (5:18-21)
- In the Home (5:20-6:4)
 - Marriage as a microcosm of the church (21-33)
 - Family life as formation in the faith (6:1-4)
- In the Predominant Culture (6:5-9)
 - Grounded in the centrality of Christ (NB: every verse!)
 - Fully honoring of the equality of ALL people

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Glimpses of Life
As it Was Intended to Be
Ephesians 4:17-6:20

III. Restored Spiritual Power (6:10-20)

- The Source of Spiritual Strength (10)
"in the Lord and in the strength of his power"
- The Provisions for Spiritual Battle (11, 14-17)
"the full armor of God": Truth; Righteousness; Peace; Faith; Salvation; the Word of God
- The Frontlines of Spiritual Battle (12, 16)
"rulers"; "authorities"; "cosmic powers of this present darkness"; "spiritual forces of evil in heavenly places"

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Glimpses of Life
As it Was Intended to Be
Ephesians 4:17-6:20

III. Restored Spiritual Power (6:10-20)

- The Source of Spiritual Strength (10)
- The Provisions for Spiritual Battle (11, 14-17)
- The Frontlines of Spiritual Battle (12, 16)
- The Place of Spiritual Battle (18-20)
"Pray in the Spirit at all times"
"Keep alert and persevere"

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Glimpses of Life
As it Was Intended to Be
Ephesians 4:17-6:20

^{4:23}To be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness . . . ^{5:8}For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— ⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. " (Ephesians 4:23-24; 5:8-9)

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Glimpses of Life
As it Was Intended to Be
Ephesians 4:17-6:20

Open Dialogue

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