

Day 6 Devotional

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace... We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Ephesians 4:1-3, 14-17

Often in church circles, we choose to be silent on issues where we anticipate conflict to attempt to “keep the peace.” We are all familiar with the Beatitude “*Blessed are the peacemakers; they will be called children of God.*” Perhaps we hold a misguided view of peacekeeping. A recent article in Christianity Today stated, “*Some assume peacemaking requires inactivity or silence in the face of disorder and injustice. But true peace is not passive quiet or the absence of action or the silence of indifference. Biblical peace is shalom, meaning completeness, well-being, and right relationship with God and each other.*” Considering this view of peacemaking, how do we live out “shalom” peace?

In Ephesians we are told “*we must lead a life worthy of the calling*” with “*all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*” Following this guidance, we must pursue the difficult conversations regarding root causes of poverty, injustice and racism bringing with us humility, gentleness, patience, and love to bridge the divide. If we claim that we are of “*one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all*” then what other choice is there for us to make? This is a task that makes us uncomfortable, but the writer of Ephesians further instructs us “*We must no longer be children*” so we must begin speaking the truth in love and pursuing right relationships with God and each other as we seek to end the suffering of all God’s creation.

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A Prayer for Humility by Latasha Morrison (Be the Bridge, page 11)

“Lord, we ask that the words... fall on the soil of our hearts. Come into our brokenness and our lives with your love that heals all. Consume our pride and replace it with humility and vulnerability. Allow us to make space for your correction and redemption. Allow us to bow down with humble hearts, hearts of repentance. Bind us together in true unity and restoration. May we hear your voice... Give us collective eyes to see our role in repairing what has been broken. Allow these words to be a conduit for personal transformation that would lead to collective reproduction.”

Resource: [Only Biblical Peacemaking Resolves Racial and Pol... | Christianity Today](#)

[Be the Bridge: Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation \(Paperback\) | 44th & 3rd Bookseller \(indielite.org\)](#)