

# one.

salvation ~ follow the one

## day one

### Read Eph 4:1-3

In verses 2 and 3, what does “walking in a manner worthy of the calling” look like? Is this way of living more vertically focused (you toward God) or horizontally focused (you toward others)? Read Matt 22:36-40; LOVE GOD ~ LOVE PEOPLE

Why do you think Jesus linked these two commands together? The more we KNOW about God, the easier it is to love Him...the more we KNOW about others, is it easier to love them? Maybe not. Yet, God calls us to treat each other with humility, gentleness, patience...and even to **bear** with each other. Why do you think God places such a high value on the way we relate to one another?

### Read John 17:20-23

As believers and followers of Christ, what does Jesus say is the purpose of our being united as one? Think about the relationships you have with other believers. Are those relationships characterized by humility, gentleness, patience, and bearing with one another? Is there someone you need to reconcile with? Be patient with? Pray that God will reveal to you the steps you need to take in dealing with others this week.

## day two

In the message last weekend, Paul mentioned the importance we at Jacob’s Well put on our Church Covenant. Read through the Jacob’s Well Church Covenant. (If you didn’t pick one up last weekend, you can view it online at [jacobswellect.org](http://jacobswellect.org). (In the “About Us” section under “Beliefs”) Spend your time today going through the first few statements, taking time to look up the verses that correspond:

We covenant to be a church family.

To serve Jesus Christ and one another

To seek to know and follow Jesus, to live as He lived, take his commands seriously

We covenant to love and accept one another

How would we as followers of Christ, living and relating with God and one another as laid out in the passages from the weekend, serve to maintain unity and peace? How might it show people who are not followers of Christ that He is the Son of God and that God loves them?

Are you seeking to know and follow Christ? Are you taking the commands of Jesus seriously? Is there someone you need to accept, to love? Is God leading you to serve Him in some way? Think about and pray through the covenant statements. What is God saying to you?

## day three

Go through the remaining statements of the Church Covenant and look up the verses:

To bear one another’s burdens

To correct one another and be open to correction

To forgive one another

To seek to build the unity of the body

To follow and respect our leaders

We covenant to seek to share the Gospel of Christ with all people (in the Chippewa Valley and around the world).

The priority and focus of the covenant is RELATIONSHIP...relationship with God and with others. How do the other five statements serve to maintain unity and peace in the body of believers at Jacob’s Well? Is there an aspect of the covenant that you are personally struggling with? Is there someone you need to forgive? Do you have an attitude or pattern of behavior that you need to change in order to build unity? Pray through each covenant statement asking God to reveal any blind spots you may have in your relationship to Him or others. What steps do you need to take to make these attitudes, actions and commitments a part of your life?

## day four

While thinking about how we are to relate to one another, have you recognized how difficult that really is? To put someone else’s “deal” or “best interest” ahead of your own when they don’t deserve it? To forgive even when they don’t deserve to be forgiven? To love even when they don’t love in return? To consistently love, accept and forgive one another on our own isn’t just difficult, it can’t be done. For example, someone asked you for the keys to the White House. Would you do it? **Could** you do it? How can you give something you don’t have to someone else? You can’t.

### Read Eph 1:7; Rom 5:1; John 3:16; and Rom 5:8

At some point on your spiritual journey, have you accepted God’s forgiveness and committed to follow Christ? Have you received His gift of grace? His Acceptance? Look again at Rom 5:8, Reflect on that. When did Christ die for our sins?

If you and I wanted those keys to the White House, I think it is safe to say that the only way it is going to happen is if President Obama GIVES them to us.

### Read Eph 1:13

When we receive the gift of salvation, we receive the Spirit of God, only then are we able to dispense to others what God has dispensed to us...to forgive those who don’t deserve it. We are able because we received forgiveness. We are able to relate to one another as God calls us to because He has first related to us in the same way.

Where are you today? Have you accepted God’s forgiveness and made that commitment to follow Him? Maybe you are not struggling with forgiving another...is it an issue of feeling loved or accepted?

## day five

Spend your devotion time today in prayer. Go to the Jacob’s Well website, click on the “About Us” tab and then go to “Staff”. Pray for the staff, pray for the office staff, pray for the pastors, pray for those who volunteer each week. Pray for the group of men serving as overseers. Pray for three people you know at church. Pray for those who are hurting...physically, emotionally, spiritually. Pray for the many families who are looking for jobs.

**“You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.” 2 Cor 11:11**

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