June 14, 2026
Sea Change Church
The Church
S1E3 – The Purpose of The Church Pt. 3
Maturity
Pastor Adam Stadtmiller

Ephesians 4:1-7

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, [2] with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, [3] eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. [4] There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— [5] one Lord, one faith, one baptism, [6] one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. [7] But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

4 Purposes of the church: Identity—Unity—Maturity—Mission

4 Corners of the church: Heart—Home—Church—World

Key Word: Maturity

Key Idea: The goal of the church is not attendance, but rather maturity.

Key Point: The destination of salvation is not heaven—it is Christlikeness.

Vs. 1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called. **Vs. 2** with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, [3] eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

- **Romans 8:29** For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be **conformed** to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

"Many people settle for looking Christian rather than becoming Christlike."

1 John 2:6

"Whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked."

Five Marks of Maturity: Vs. 1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all **humility** and **gentleness**, with **patience**, **bearing with one another in love**, 3 **eager to maintain the unity** of the Spirit in the **bond of peace.**

1. **Humility**
2. **Stability**
3. **Love**
4. **Unity and Peace**
5. **Service: Ephesians** 4:12And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds[a] and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

Practical Takeaway: This week, choose one area where you know you don't look like Jesus yet, and intentionally practice Christlikeness in that area every day.

Small Group Discussion Questions:

1. Which of the five marks of maturity (humility, stability, love, unity, or service) is strongest in your life right now? Which needs the most growth?
2. What does it practically look like to "walk in a manner worthy of your calling" this week?
3. Why do you think becoming like Jesus is more important than simply attending church?
4. How can you help maintain the unity of the Spirit in your family, small group, or church?
5. What is one specific step you can take this week to grow in Christlikeness?