A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study Date: July 11, 2021 Ephesians 4:1-16

- 1. What was Paul doing at the time when he wrote this letter, according to 4:1?
 - a. Lounging on the beach.
 - b. He is very busy traveling to preach and the stress has been getting to him.
 - c. He is in prison because of His work for Christ.
- 2. What does Paul urge the believers in verse 1?
 - a. Be thankful for the grace of Jesus Christ.
 - b. Live a life worthy of the calling you have received.
- 3. What instructions does Paul give believers in verses 2-4?
 - a. Be mostly humble.
 - b. Be gentle and put up with others until you lose your patience.
 - c. Be completely humble and gentle.
 - d. Be judgmental and impatient when others don't live up to your expectations.
 - e. Bear with one another in love.
 - f. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.
- 4. What do verses 4-6 say about unity in the church?
 - a. There is one body and one Spirit...so if we are a part of that body and guided by the same Spirit, how would have anything else but unity.
 - b. We were called to one hope when we were called, so we're all on the same team and traveling on the same journey with the same destination.
 - c. There is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism.
 - d. There is one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all...y'all.
 - e. Everything about our faith should unite us. The only thing that divides us is our own desires, which flow from our flesh and not the Spirit (see also James 4:1-3, Philippians 2:1-11, etc.)...so, if we are divided more than united, it should tell us something about our faith and the presence of God in our lives.
- 5. What could you change in your life to increase unity in the church?
- 6. Why, according to 4:11-12, did Christ give some to be apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers?
 - a. Because we need taught.
 - b. Because we need corrected.
 - c. Because people need to hear the good news.
 - d. ...to equip his people for works of service....
 - e. ...so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God...
 - f. So that we might become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.