

THEREFORE

A BIBLE STUDY ON EPHESIANS 4:1-6

BY: REV. STEVE MANSKAR

FRAGMENT 8: ONE HOPE, ONE LORD

The one hope of your calling and one baptism marks us a citizen of the Kingdom of God. When Paul writes, “one Lord,” he echoes the first confession of the church, “Jesus Christ is Lord.” When we proclaim this, we acknowledge that he is Lord and I am not. But Lordship is not about domination, hierarchy, and oppression. Scripture tells us that Christ’s Lordship is marked by self-giving, sacrificial love, compassion, justice, forgiveness, and reconciliation. Rather than ruling over, Jesus rules alongside as a servant. The true nature of Jesus’ lordship is revealed in the cross.

FOLLOW ALONG:

Watch the eighth fragment of Steve Manskar’s Bible study and fill in the _____.

When we proclaim “Jesus Christ is Lord,” we acknowledge that he is Lord and we are _____.

His Lordship is marked by _____ - _____, _____ - _____ love.

Rather than ruling over, Jesus rules _____ as servant.

STRETCH IN THE SPIRIT:

Practice servant leadership. Choose one area or relationship in your life today that feels challenging to you. Approach this situation as you believe Jesus might. How does focusing on your relationship to Christ’s cross affect your perspective?

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. How have you experienced the “Lordship” of Christ in your life? In what ways does this Scripture broaden or change the way you think about authority?
2. What does it mean, for you, to proclaim, “Jesus is Lord, and I am not”? What aspects of your life do you find easy to surrender to God? Which are harder to surrender?
3. What are five or 10 specific ways visitors to your church will notice that your congregation is made up of citizens of the Kingdom of God?

