

***Let's Show America Great Again***  
**A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH**  
**Ephesians 4:1-16**

During the first twenty years of their lives, we spend a lot of time and a pile of money preparing our kids for the next few decades of their existence here on earth. We want them to survive and thrive in this world. We want each one of them to become a force to be reckoned with.

The investment you make in your child's life is only good for sixty or seventy years, while the investment you make in your own spiritual life promises an eternal payoff. Not only that, it makes you a force to be reckoned with in this world.

The first three chapters of Ephesians taught us that the early believers had a bigger impact on the world than their world had on them because, although they were powerless, they knew that they belonged to the kingdom of God. That's where their deepest needs were met. That's where their power came from. That's where they belonged. Because they kept that in mind, nothing that happened in the world and nothing the world did to them fazed them.

The next three chapters of Ephesians (4:1-6:9) give us another reason those believers impacted their world so powerfully. They didn't just sit around and ponder their glorious position in Christ, they also lived like they belonged. *When we live in this world like we belong to God's kingdom, not only do we prepare ourselves for our eternal future, we become a force to be reckoned with in this world.*

Ephesians 4:1-16 shows us the first thing it means to live like we belong and the first step to becoming a force to be reckoned with in the world. In a word, it takes *community*.

*To survive and thrive in this world*  
**LIVE LIKE YOU BELONG TO GOD'S KINGDOM**  
Eph. 4:1

*Living like we belong means*  
**PRACTISING THE CULTURE OF GOD'S KINGDOM**  
Eph. 4:2-6:9

*Practising kingdom culture starts with*  
**LIVING IN COMMUNITY**  
Eph. 4:2-16

*Living in community requires*  
**KEEPING THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT**  
Eph. 4:2-6

*Keeping the unity means*  
**CELEBRATING OUR GOD-GIVEN DIVERSITY**  
Eph. 4:-7-10

*Celebrating our diversity calls for*  
**INTENTIONAL INTERDEPENDENCE**  
Eph. 4:11-13

*Intentional interdependence makes us*  
**A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH**  
Eph. 4:14-16