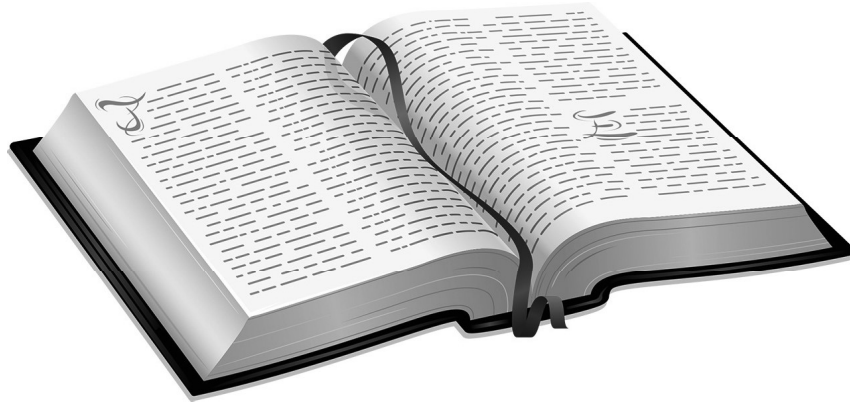


Answer Sheet for New International Version (NIV)

# Bible Correspondence Fellowship



## Ephesians - Lesson 2 of 2

*Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit,  
binding yourselves together with peace.*

***Ephesians 4:3 (NLT)***

In the first three chapters of this letter, God has given us through Paul some of the most important doctrinal teachings for the church of this age; in the last three chapters the emphasis changes to the practical life and walk of the believer. Here in chapter four especially, Paul's stress is on the unity we share as believers in the Spirit of God and how that unity should affect our behavior and attitude.

## Chapter 4

**Please take time to read through chapter 4 before answering the questions.**

1. In verse 4:1 Paul encourages us to walk (live our lives) in a manner worthy of God's calling, which each of us believers received in Christ.

According to verse 4:2 this walk includes four things. What are they?

1. humble
2. gentle
3. patient
4. bearing with one another in love

2. (v. 3) What are we trying to keep or preserve? unity of the Spirit

3. Just as the Father and the Son are one (John 10:30), we are one in Christian unity. There are seven important truths that unify believers today. What are they? (vv. 4:4-6)

- |                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. <u>one body</u>                  | 2. <u>one Spirit</u>  |
| 3. <u>one hope</u>                  | 4. <u>one Lord</u>    |
| 5. <u>one faith</u>                 | 6. <u>one baptism</u> |
| 7. <u>one God and Father of all</u> |                       |

Verses 4:7-11 refer to the gifts that Christ has given each of us to help others grow in their spiritual lives. Each of us is an important member of Christ's body, with at least one spiritual gift. Part of maturing spiritually as a believer is to discover which gifts God has given you and then learning to exercise them for the benefit of the whole body of believers.

4. What five gifts were given to the church? (v. 4:11)

- |                       |                                       |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. <u>apostles</u>    | (those who are sent)                  |
| 2. <u>prophets</u>    | (those who tell of things to come)    |
| 3. <u>evangelists</u> | (share the Good News of Jesus Christ) |
| 4. <u>pastors</u>     | (shepherd or overseer of church)      |
| 5. <u>teachers</u>    | (one who instructs)                   |

5. Based on verse 4:12, write in your own words why Christ gave these gifts to his church. to equip His people for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up

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6. (v. 4:13) These gifts are to help each member of the Body of Christ reach four goals.

What are the goals?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <u>reach full unity in the faith</u> | 3. <u>become mature</u>                    |
| 2. <u>knowledge of the Son of God</u>   | 4. <u>attaining the fullness of Christ</u> |

7. (v. 4:14) How might immature believers be tossed about like waves in the wind.  
deceitful teaching

What steps might you take to avoid being tossed about? study the Word

*(If you are not sure, read 2 Timothy 2:15 and 3:16.)*

8. (v. 4:15) How should you speak the truth? in love Who is the head? Christ

A normal body is coordinated and will work in harmony, every part in unity with every other part. The hands work in harmony with the eyes, and with the arms, etc. There is no conflict. What a beautiful picture of how the body of Christ should be. We are to be in unity with one another; and in our unity, we will glorify God and magnify Christ.

9. (v. 4:16) If we are unified, what will happen to the church/body?  
it will grow and build itself up in love

10. (vv. 4:18-19) We are not to walk as unbelieving Gentiles do.

List four things that describe their condition.

1. darkened in their understanding

2. separated from the life of God

3. hardened in their hearts

4. given over to sensuality

11.(v. 4:21) In this world, where people have trouble discerning between right and wrong,  
where can truth be found? in Jesus (Read John 14:6)

12.(v. 4:22) We are to put off the old man/self (our sinful nature). How is this old nature  
described? being corrupted by its sinful desires

13.(v. 4:24) What should the believer put on? the new self

How is it created? in true righteousness and holiness

14. (v. 4:25) Instead of lying, what should you do?   speak truthfully  

15. In your own words explain verse 4:27.

  Do not give Satan an opportunity to tempt you in any way.  

  Live in obedience to the Holy Spirit.  

  (answers will vary)  

16. (v. 4:28) Instead of stealing, what should you do?   work doing something useful  

Why?   may have something to share with those in need  

17. (v. 4:29) Why is it important that only good words come out of your mouth?

  building up others according to their need and that it may benefit those that listen  

18. How do you think you might cause the Holy Spirit to grieve or feel sadness? (v. 4:30)

  Disobedience to the Holy Spirit  

  (Answers may vary)  

  What has the Holy Spirit done for you?  

  sealed me for the day of redemption  

19. (v. 4:31) What are you to get rid of?

  bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander along with every form of malice  

20. (v. 4:32) How are you to treat other members of the body?

  Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other  

  How are you to forgive them?  

  as in Christ God has forgiven me

# Chapter 5

*"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil" Ephesians. 5:15-16 (NASB)*

In this chapter of our study we learn more about how to live the Christian life. The verses exhort us to separate ourselves from immoral and sinful behavior and to walk in the will of God. When we allow God to enter into our minds through His written Word, we are permitting a powerful force to come in. If we refuse His Word, however, we are giving invitation to another powerful force, an ungodly force, to influence our minds and our bodies. This force is described as "the god of this world."

Satan is seeking to conquer the world. His battlefield is the minds and hearts of men. Behind the great movements which are today threatening the peace and freedom of mankind, Satan operates, moving as the Great Deceiver and Devouring Lion. Studying the Bible helps prepare us to resist Satan's attacks and his influence in the world, in our churches, and in our lives.

1. (v. 5:1) What are you told to be or do? follow God's example as dearly loved children

2. (v. 5:2) How are you to walk?  
in the way of love just as Christ loved us

What did Christ do for you?  
gave himself up as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God

3. (vv. 5:3-4) List six things that you should avoid.

- |                                |                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. <u>sexual immorality</u>    | 4. <u>obscenity</u>     |
| 2. <u>any kind of impurity</u> | 5. <u>foolish talk</u>  |
| 3. <u>greed</u>                | 6. <u>coarse joking</u> |

4. Verse 5:5 describes unbelievers. What will they be denied?  
any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God

5. (v. 5:6) What is going to come upon these sinners?  
God's wrath

6. (vv. 5:7-8) Why should you no longer join in the behavior of these unbelievers?

No longer in darkness but now are light in the Lord

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How should you walk? as children of light

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7. (v. 5:9) Name three things the light (Spirit) produces in believers?

1. goodness      2. righteousness      3. truth

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8. (v. 5:11) Instead of participating in the works of darkness, or even just observing them, what should you do? expose them

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9. What does verse 5:12 say about sins done in secret?

it is shameful to even mention them

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10. Read verse 5:13 and compare it with John 3:19-20. The main idea is that light exposes, or reproves, sin. In John 3:20, why doesn't an evil person come to the light?

fear their deeds will be exposed

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Just as the light exposes what is hidden in the darkness, so the light of God will expose sin which people try to keep secretly hidden. Take time now to pray, talking to God silently or out loud. Ask God to reveal sin in your life that you would not want others to see. Confess your sin to Him and accept the forgiveness we have for our sins through the death of Jesus Christ our Lord.

11. (v. 5:14) What will happen to the person who wakes up from spiritual sleep or arises from spiritual deadness? Christ will shine on them

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12. (vv. 5:15-16) To be wise, what two things should you do?

1. be careful how you live
  2. make the most of every opportunity
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13. (v. 5:17) If you do these things, paying attention to all that is written in chapters 4 and 5, what will you better understand? the Lord's will

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14. (v. 5:18) What should you not do? get drunk on wine  
What should you do? be filled with the Spirit

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15. (v. 5:19) Paul mentions what three kinds of music?  
1. psalms                      2. hymns                      3. songs from the Spirit  
How are you to worship? sing and make music from your heart to the Lord

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16. (v. 5:20) For what should you give thanks? everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

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The remaining verses of this chapter teach believers concerning the marriage relationship of a husband and wife. Paul uses the comparison of Christ as the head of the body/church as an example of how the marriage relationship should be. The idea of subjecting, or submitting, yourself to another person means that you should be willing to set aside certain rights and desires for the sake of unity. It means placing yourself under the authority and leadership of another. When we choose to follow Christ as our head, we choose to place ourselves under His authority. So it is in marriage.

17. (vv. 22-24) What should wives do? submit to their own husbands as to the Lord

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18. (v. 5:25) How should husbands treat their wives?  
love their wives as Christ loved the church

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**Note:** Christ was a servant/leader while on earth. He was not a dictator. He suffered humiliation and death on the cross for his church. This is the kind of attitude God desires from husbands. Think about it! What woman wouldn't submit to a husband who considered himself her servant, putting her needs and desires before his own even to the point of death.

19. (v. 5:26) How does Christ sanctify (make holy) and cleanse the church?

by the washing with water through the Word

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**Note:** This “washing of water by the word” does not refer to water baptism but to the impact of the Word of God upon the church and in the life of the believer. The Holy Spirit uses the Word of God to change people’s lives. (See Titus 3:5.)

20. (v. 5:27) How does Christ want to present the church to Himself?

a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless

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21. (v. 5:28) Because God says a husband and wife are one in Genesis 2:24, Mark 10:7-8, how should a husband love his wife?

as his own body

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22. (v. 5:29) How does a man take care of his own body?

feed and care for his body just as Christ does the church

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In the same way, Christ cares for the church, which is His spiritual body of which we are individual members.

23. (v. 5:32) The spiritual union of a husband and wife is compared to the great mystery of what? Christ and the church

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24. (v. 5:33) A husband is to love his wife as if she were his own self.

What is the wife to do?

the wife must respect her husband

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# Chapter 6

*And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike. **Ephesians. 6:19 (NLT)***

In the first nine verses of this chapter are some practical exhortations and guidelines for children, parents, servants and masters. In all these things we should do the will of God from the heart. In the following verses are some very important teachings concerning spiritual warfare and its impact on every believer. Be sure you understand what is the "Armor of God" and put it on.

1. What does God desire children to do?

(v. 6:1) obey their parents in the Lord

(v. 6:2) honor their father and mother

2. (v. 6:3) This was one of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:12). What was the promise? so that it may go well with them and they may enjoy long life on the earth

3. (v. 6:4) In raising their children what should a father avoid?

do not exasperate their children

What should fathers do?

bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord

4. (vv. 5-7) What should your attitude be towards those who are in authority over you?

obedience with respect and fear, with sincerity of heart just as you would obey Christ

(Today, verses 5-7 could apply to employers and employees, teachers and students, correction officers and inmates, etc.)

5. (v. 6:7) How are we told to serve? wholeheartedly as serving the Lord, not people

(v. 6:8) Who will repay anyone that does good? the Lord

6. (v. 6:9) Why should the master (employer) treat his servants (employees) well?

treat them the same way since He is the Master is in heaven and there is no favoritism with

Him

7. (v. 6:10) Where can you find spiritual strength?

in the Lord and in His mighty power

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8. (v. 6:11) We are told in verse 10 to be strong in the Lord; then in verses 11-18, we are told how to be strong. Why must we put on the whole armor of God?

to take a stand against the devil's schemes

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9. (v. 6:12) The Bible tells us that man is not our enemy.

What unseen foes do we wrestle against?

1. rulers

2. authorities

3. powers of this dark world

4. spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms

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10. (v. 6:14) What two things do you need to put on in order to stand?

1. belt of truth buckled around your waist

2. breastplate of righteousness

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11. (v. 6:15) We place on our feet the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace

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**NOTE:** The “gospel of peace” is the foundation on which your spiritual life was started (Romans 5:1). You should be willing and ready to share it with others.

12. (v. 6:16) Why do we need the shield of faith?

to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one

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13. (v. 6:17) The last two pieces of armor are...

1. helmet of salvation

2. sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God

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**NOTE:** A sword is both a defensive and offensive tool. For the daily battles of life you will need a sword which is God's Word. Take it with you, think on it, speak of it, feast on it, live by it.

14. In your war against satanic forces, what should you be doing? (v. 6:18)

pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

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Be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

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**STOP!** In verse 6:18, as followers of Christ, we are instructed to pray not only for our own benefit but for our brothers and sisters in the Lord. Take a few minutes to make a prayer list on a separate piece of paper. Write down a few names and some specific needs of people you know. Set aside a specific time each day this week to pray for them. If possible, encourage them by letting them know you are lifting them up to God in prayer. Write down any answers to these prayers, then thank God for them.

15. (vv. 6:19-20) What did Paul ask the church to pray for?

words may be given to him so that he will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel.

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That he may declare it fearlessly

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In Paul's request of the believers, does he ever ask them to pray for his release from prison? No! His desire was that he might fulfill the mission given to him by Christ Jesus. Look again at Eph. 3:8-9 and read Christ's task for Paul and for us. Yes, this is the work that was given to Paul, and also to us who desire to do God's will and work in this present evil age.

***(Read also Colossians 1:25-26.)***

What Bible version/ translation did you use for this lesson?

ESV ☐ KJV ☐ NIV ☐ NKJV ☐ NLT ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

This helps us know what version/ translation to use when reviewing your lesson.

Your questions or comments:

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