A hand holding a wooden tablet against a sunset background. The text is overlaid on the image.

ONE *Lord*
One FAITH
ONE *Baptism*

Ps Cathy | Ephesians 4:5

1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.



Ephesians 4:1-6



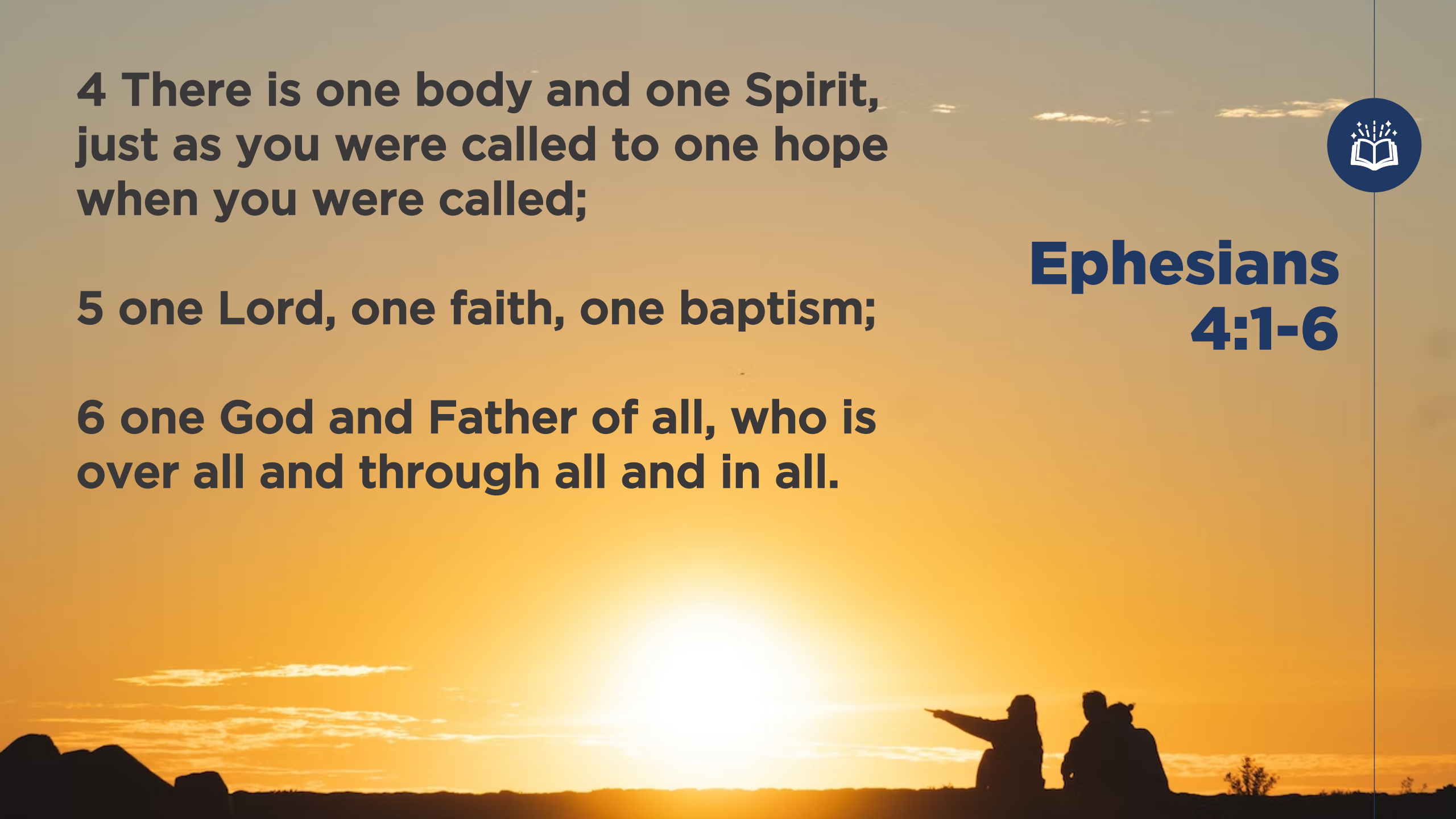
**4 There is one body and one Spirit,
just as you were called to one hope
when you were called;**

5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism;

**6 one God and Father of all, who is
over all and through all and in all.**



Ephesians 4:1-6



A. Made worthy – Because of Jesus



Ephesians Ch 1-3 reminds us:

- The life that we have today is only through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ
- The benefits of the life in Christ
 - Redemption & forgiveness
 - Our citizenship
 - Our inheritance
 - Sealed with the Holy Spirit
 - His unending grace – that we cannot boast on ourselves



**Your belief reflects
what you cultivate
in your heart.
What you cultivate
in your heart will
eventually show in
the way you think,
live, pray and do.**



B. Walk worthy of the Call



Ephesians 4:1-3

1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the CALLING you have received.

2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace



C. 7 Unities



- The very foundation of the church's unity comes down to the saving act of Jesus Christ
- These 7 elements of unity BIND US, but also what we ought to show and tell the world
- The number 7 – signifies completion
- We see the TRINITY in the 7 unities



C. 7 Unities

1. One Body
2. One Spirit
3. One Hope
4. One Lord
5. One Faith
6. One Baptism
7. One God & Father of All



C. 7 Unities



i. *One Body*

1 Corinthians 12:12-13

12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.

13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.



C. 7 Unities



i. *One Body*

- a. Love the body for how it is arranged by God
(1 Cor 12:18)
- b. Honour and value every part of the body
(1 Cor 12:19-21)
- c. Have equal concern for each other
(1 Cor 12:25-26)



C. 7 Unities



i. One Body

Ephesians 4:11-13

11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,

12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.



C. 7 Unities



i. *One Body*

1 Cor 12:27-31

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

28 And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues.



C. 7 Unities



i. *One Body*

1 Cor 12:27-31

29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?

30 Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?

31 Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.



C. 7 Unities

i. *One Body*

Matthew 12:25

Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them,
“Every kingdom divided against itself will be
ruined, and every city or household divided
against itself will not stand.



C. 7 Unities



i. *One Body*

Ephesians 2:18-22

18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household,

20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.



C. 7 Unities



i. *One Body*

Ephesians 2:18-22

21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.

22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.



C. 7 Unities

ii. *One Spirit*

- It is the work of ONE SPIRIT
 - 1 Cor 12:4

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them



C. 7 Unities



ii. *One Spirit*

- It is the work of ONE SPIRIT

- 1 Cor 12:8-11

8 To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit,

9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit,



C. 7 Unities



ii. *One Spirit*

- It is the work of ONE SPIRIT

- 1 Cor 12:8-11

10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.

11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.



C. 7 Unities



ii. *One Spirit*

- It is the work of ONE SPIRIT
 - Ephesians 5:18

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,



C. 7 Unities

iii. *One Hope*

- **The hope for every believer is Jesus Christ.**



C. 7 Unities



iii. One Hope

- What is the basis of your hope?
 - Psalm 25:3 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
 - Psalm 130:7 - Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.



C. 7 Unities



iii. *One Hope*

- What is the basis of your hope?
 - Romans 5:5 - And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.



C. 7 Unities

iii. *One Hope*

- **Our source of hope is trustworthy and reliable. He has a perfect track record.**



C. 7 Unities

iv. One Lord

- 1 Cor 12:5 - There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord
- Adonai - Lord, Master, owner, ruler



C. 7 Unities



v. One Faith

- Ephesians 2:8 - For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God
- Jude 3 (AMP) - Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I was compelled to write to you [urgently] appealing that you]fight strenuously for [the defense of] the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints [the faith that is the sum of Christian belief that was given verbally to believers]



C. 7 Unities



vi. One Baptism

- 1 Cor 12:13 tell us that we are BAPTISED by one Spirit
- Baptism signifying the death, burial and resurrection (Col 2:12)



C. 7 Unities



vii. One God & Father of All

- 1 Cor 8:6 - yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.
- He is the Father of all – Jews and Gentile believers alike (Ephesians 2)
- He has called us to unity not uniformity. Yet we are reminded that we worship the same God



D. Maintaining the Unity



What binds up together must be **INTENTIONALLY STRENGTHENED** and **VIGILANTLY SAFEGUARDED** - *Adam T. Ball*

The characters needed to keep the unity - Ephesians 4:2-3

2 "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace"



D. Maintaining the Unity



a. Completely humble and gentle

Other bible versions say

KJV: with all lowliness and meekness

AMP: with all humility [forsaking self-righteousness], and gentleness
[maintaining self-control]

i. Comes from being imitators of Christ and having the mind of Christ (including the constant renewal)



D. Maintaining the Unity



b. Be patient, bearing with one another in love

Other Bible translations:

NLT: Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love



D. Maintaining the Unity



c. Make every effort to keep the unity - safeguard it!

i. Romans 8:5-11

5 Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

6 The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.



D. Maintaining the Unity



c. Make every effort to keep the unity - safeguard it!

i. Romans 8:5-11

7 The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.

8 Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.



D. Maintaining the Unity

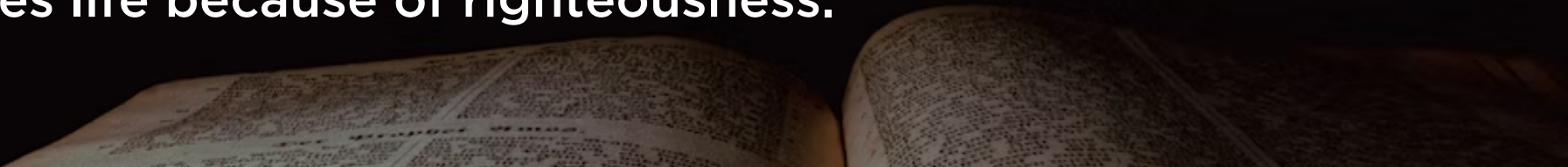


c. Make every effort to keep the unity - safeguard it!

i. Romans 8:5-11

9 You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.

10 But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.



D. Maintaining the Unity



c. Make every effort to keep the unity - safeguard it!

i. Romans 8:5-11

11 And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.



D. Maintaining the Unity



c. Make every effort to keep the unity - safeguard it!

ii. Romans 8:12-14

12 Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it.

13 For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.



D. Maintaining the Unity



c. Make every effort to keep the unity - safeguard it!

ii. 1 Peter 1:22 - Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart

1 Peter 2:17 - Respect everyone, and love the family of believers. Fear God, and respect the king



E. Why keep the unity?



John 17:20-23

20 “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,

21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—



E. Why keep the unity?



John 17:20-23

23 I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.



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