Isifundo 4

**Oktobha 20-26*

Isitshixo Sokungena Kubunye

SABATHA EMVA KWEMINI

Fundela Isifundo sale Veki:
Efese 1:3–14; Gal. 4:7; Efese 2:11–22; 4:1–6, 11; Mat. 20:25–28; Efese 5:15–6:9.

Indima Yenkumbulo:
"Esazisile imfihlelo yokuthanda kwakhe ngokwenkolelo yakhe, awayimisayo ngokwakhe, ebhekise ekuhleleni aya kuhlela ngako, akuzaliseka amaxesha, ukuba azihlanganisele zonke izinto kuye uKristu, ezisemazulwini kwanezisemhlabeni" (Efese 1:9, 10).

IEfese yayiliziko elikhulu lorhwebo nempembelelo kwiAsia Minor. Ibandla apho e-Efese, lalinamaYuda, iiNtlanga kunye nabantu bayo yonke imigangatho nemisebenzi. Ukwahlukana okungako kwamalungu kunokuba kwakufanelekile ukuba kube neembambano njengelizwe ababephila kulo; oko kukuthi, ukuba kwakungengaYe uKristu, nobunye awayenabo kuYe njengamalungu omzimba kaKristu. Ngoko ke, ixhala likaPawulos lobunye phakathi kwabalandeli bakaKristu lungumxholo ongumbindi wencwadi yakhe eyayisiya kumaEfese. Imbono kaPawulos yobunye inamacala amabini: ubunye ebandleni, apho amaYuda neeNtlanga babehlangene kunye kumzimba omnye—uKristu; nobunye kwindalo yonke [kwiyunivesi], ekuthi kuyo izinto zonke ezisezulwini nezisemhlabeni zibufumane khona ubunye obugqibeleleyo kuKristu. Ithende lobu bunye nguKristu. Isaci sikaPawulos esithi, "kuKristu" okanye "noKristu" sisetyenziswe amaxesha amaninzi kule ncwadi ukubonisa oko uThixo akufezileyo ngenxa yethu nangenxa yendalo yonke ngobomi, ukufa nokuvuka kukaYesu Kristu. Eyona njongo yokugqibela kaThixo kwicebo losindiso kukuzihlanganisa zonke izinto ngoKristu. Obu bunye buza kubonakalaliswa ngokupheleleyo kuphela ekupheleni kwephakade.

**Funda isifundo sale veki ukulungiselela iSabatha kaOktobha 27.*

Iintsikelelo KuKristu

Funda: Efese 1:3–14. NgokukaPawulos, yintoni esiyinikiweyo ngoKristu?

Abalandeli bakaYesu kuninzi abafanele ukumbonga ngako uThixo. KuKristu, uThixo unyule ukuba asamkele njengoonyana neentombi nokuba simmele emhlabeni. UPawulos usebenzisa umfanekiselo ochaza ulwalamano lwethu olutsha noThixo ngoKristu. Kwezi zinto, umfanekiselo wokwamkelwa uthetha ngomxholo wesi sifundo sobunye. KuKristu, samkelwe njengabantwana, kwaye singabosapho lukaThixo. Lo mfanekiselo wosapho ukwathetha ngomnqophiso kaThixo kubantwana bakwaSirayeli. Ngokwencwadi kaPawulos, iiNtlanga ezamkele uYesu njengoMesiya, nazo zingabantwana bakaThixo, iindlalifa zamadinga awenze noSirayeli (Rom. 8:17, Gal. 4:7). Ubuhle bolu lwalamano noKristu, ukuba kuKristu, kusisiseko kubo bonke ubunye bobuKristu. Le ndawo ikwasixelela ukuba ibilulangazelelo lukaThixo lonke ixesha ukumanya ngokutsha lonke uluntu kuKristu. Ngoko ke, kusapho lukaThixo, esazi ukuba uYesu akaniki mgangatho ukhethekileyo nakubani: sonke singabantwana bakaThixo, kwaye sithanda sibukwa ngokulinganayo. Abanye bayabhideka, xa kule ndawo sifunda ngokumiselwa kwangaphambili (Efese 1:5, 11). Isithembiso sokuba uThixo wasinyula ukuze sisindiswe ingathi sithetha ngokuba abanye banyulelwe ukuba balahleke. Kanti ke, asiyiyo imfundiso yeBhayibhile leyo. Endaweni yoko, uThixo ulungise icebo losindiso phambi kokuba kusekwe ihlabathi ukuze wonke umntu asindiswe. "Kuba wenjenje uThixo ukulithanda kwakhe ihlabathi, ude wancama uNyana waKhe ekuphela kwamzeleyo, ukuze bonke abakholwayo kuYe bangatshabalali koko babe nobomi obungunaphakade" (Yohane 3:16; bona naku: 1 Tim. 2:6, 2 Pet. 3:9). UThixo wazi kwangaphambili ukuba ngubani oya kusamkela isipho saKhe sosindiso, kodwa akufani oko nokusimisela kwangaphambili isigqibo somntu. Usindiso lunikwa lonke uluntu ngenxa yoko uKristu asenzele kona. Umbuzo uthi: Sisabela njani kwesi sipho? UThixo akasebenzisi kunyanzela ukuze amsindise umntu.

"Kwiqumrhu elalisezulwini, umsindleko wenziwa wokuba abantu, nangona bengaboni, bangatshabalali ekungathobelini kwabo, kodwa, ngokukholwa kuKristu njengomi endaweni yabo nosisibambiso sabo, babe ngabanyulwa bakaThixo, babekelwe kwangaphambili ukuba bamkelwe babe ngabantwana baKhe ngoYesu Kristu ngokokulunga kwentando yaKhe. UThixo unga bonke abantu bangasindiswa; kuba kwenziwe umsindleko omkhulu, ngokunikelwa koNyana waKhe ekuphela kozelweyo ukuba abe yintlawulelo yokukhulula umntu. Abo baya kutshabalala baya kutshabalala kuba bekwalile ukwamkelwa njengabantwana bakaThixo ngoKristu Yesu." — Ellen G. White Comments, *The SDA Bible Commentary,* vol. 6, p. 1114.

Ukuwisa Udonga

Ezinye zezona yantlukwano zinzulu phakathi kwabantu zibangwa kukwahlukana kobuzwe, ubuhlanga, nenkolo. Kwimiphakathi emininzi, amakhadi okuzazisa abonisa ubuhlanga okanye inkolo akuyo umntu, kwaye oku kwahlukana kukholisa ukuhlangana namalungelo okanye imida ekufuneka abantu bephile kuyo yonke imihla. Xa kuqhambuka iimfazwe okanye ukungquzulana ezi mpawu zokuzazisa nokwahlukana ziba zezona ziqalelo zengcinezelo nobundlobongela.

Kwabase-Efese 2:11–22, uPawulos ubonisa indlela elungileyo yokuhlala kwamaKristu. Ubunye bethu kuKristu bunagalelo lini kwiiyantlukwano zethu? Yintoni eyawayo ngokufa kukaYesu emnqamlezweni?

UPawulos umema amaEfese ukuba akhumbule ukuba ubomi bawo babunjani phambi kokuba afumane ubabalo lukaThixo kuKristu. Iiyantlukwano zobuzwe, zenkcubeko, nezenkolo zadala ubutshaba nongquzulwano phakathi kwamaqela abantu. Iindaba ezimnandi zezokuba, kuKristu, sonke singumntu omnye sinoMsindisi omnye oyiNkosi enye. Sisonke singabantu bakaThixo. "Ke ngoku ngoKristu Yesu, nina, enibe nifudula nikude, nithe naba kufuphi ngalo igazi likaKristu" (Efese 2:13). Itempile yakudala eYerusalem yayinodonga lokwahlula ukubonisa iindawo zetempile ezingenwa kuphela luhlanga lwamaYuda. Olu donga lwalunombhalo owalela abasemzini ukuba bangadluli, kungenjalo baya kufa. Ngulo myalelo awamangalelwa ngokuwugqitha uPawulos xa wayengena etempileni emva kweehambo zakhe zovangelo. Ukubanjwa kwakhe uPawulos wamangalelwa ngokungenisa endaweni yamaYuda etempileni umEfese ogama linguTrofimo (Zenzo 21:29). Kule ncwadi uPawulos uxoxa esithi, uKristu "nguye oluxolo lwethu, yena uthe izinto zombini [amaqela obuhlanga] wazenza zaba nye, waluchitha ke udonga lothango oluphakathi" (Efese 2:14).

KuKristu, amakholwa ayinzala ka-Abraham kwaye amkela ulwaluko lwentliziyo. Ulwaluko lwenyama uThixo awalunika uAbraham lwalusalatha kulwaluko lwasemoyeni amakholwa awayeza kulufumana kuKristu (bona: Dut. 10:16). "Kuye naluswa nokwaluswa ngolwaluko olungenakwenziwa ngazandla, ngako ukuhluba umzimba wenyama, ngalo ulwaluko lukaKristu" (Kol. 2:11).

Funda kwakhona: Efese 2:11–22. Zeziphi iindlela esithi sibone ngazo ebandleni lethu ubunyaniso boku uPawulos abhale ngako apha? Yeyiphi imingeni eseleyo?

Ubunye Emzimbeni Omnye

UPawulos uthetha into eyenzekayo kumazwi aphefumlelweyo aya e-Efese. Ubunye obukhoyo phakathi kwamaYuda neeNtlanga, phakathi kwabantu beenkcubeko ezahlukeneyo nabaphuma kubuhlanga obahlukeneyo, abuyiyo intsomi okanye into ecingwe nje yingqondo; yinto eyenzekayo nenyanzelisa ngokuthi nakuthi "nihambe ngokulufaneleyo ubizo enabizwa ngalo" (Efese 4:1).

Ngokwabase-Efese 4:1–3, yeyiphi indlela ekufuneka amaKristu ahambe ngayo efanele ubizo lwawo kuKristu?

Isiphumo esiphathekayo soku kuhle, nobubele, neemfesane ebomini bobuKristu, kukusinceda "ukuba sibugcine ubunye boMoya ngentambo yoxolo" (Efese 4:3). Zonke ezi mpawu zimile eluthandweni (1 Kor. 13:1–7). Ukwenza okusebenzayo kothando kugcina ulwalamano phakathi kwabazalwana noodade kukhuthaze uxolo nobunye kusapho lobuKristu, nangaphandle. Ubunye ebandleni butyhila uthando lukaThixo ngeendlela ezingaqhelekanga abathi bazibone nabanye. Ibandla libizelwe ubungqina obunjalo, ngakumbi kwixesha lembandezelo, leeyantlukwano, neemfazwe.

Funda: Efese 4:4–6. Nguwuphi umxholo omnye obalulekileyo kwezi ndima zintathu?

Kwiindima zokuqala zesi sahluko, uPawulos uveza umdla wakhe omkhulu kubunye bebandla. Uqala ngokuvuselela ubunye (Efese 4:1–3) aze alandele ngoludwe lweziqalelo ezisixhenxe ezimanya amakholwa (Efese 4:4–6). Ubunye yinto anayo ngaxesha nye amaKristu (Efese 4:4–6), into ekufuneka isetyenzwe rhoqo, yondliwe (Efese 4:1–3), nento engumgomo esizamela ukufikelela kuwo (Efese 4:13). "Umpostile ukhuthaza abazalwana bakhe ukuba babonakalalise ebomini babo amandla enyaniso awayibeka phambi kwabo. Ngobulali nobubele, ukunyamezela nothando, kwakufuneka babengumzekelo wesimilo sikaKristu neentsikelelo zosindiso lwaKhe. Mnye umzimba, mnye uMoya, inye iNkosi, lunye ukholo. Njengamalungu omzimba kaKristu amakholwa aphiliswa ngulo moya mnye, nethemba elinye. Iiyantlukwano ebandleni ziyayihlazisa inkolo kaKristu phambi kwehlabathi, zinika ithuba iintshaba zenyaniso ukuba zilithethelele ikhondo lazo. Iimfundiso zikaPawulos zazingabhalelwanga ibandla lemihla yakhe kuphela. UThixo walungiselela ukuba zifikelele nakuthi. Senza ntoni ukubugcina ubunye ngentambo yoxolo?"—Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 239.

Ziintoni onokuzikhetha ngoku ukuze uqiniseke ukuba uhamba "ngokulufaneleyo ubizo [o]wabizwa ngalo"?

Iinkokeli Zebandla Nobunye

"Ke elowo kuthi wababalwa ngokomlinganiso wokupha kukaKristu" (Efese 4:7). Nangona usindiso lusisipho esiya kubantu bonke abasamkelayo, ezinye izipho zomoya zinikwa abantu abathile ukufeza injongo ekhethekileyo.

Funda: Efese 4:11. Zeziphi izipho zobunkokeli uThixo azinika ibandla?

Ngokwabase-Efese 4:12, iyintoni injongo kaThixo yokunika izipho ezikhethekileyo zobunkokeli ebandleni? Zihambelana njani ezi zipho esinye nesinye?

Onke amaKristu, ngandlela ithile, angabafundisi nabasebenzi bakaThixo nevangeli. Umyalelo kaKristu kuMateyu 28:19, 20 unikwe onke amaKristu ukuba ahambe, enze abafundi zonke iintlanga, abhaptize, afundise. Umsebenzi wolungiselelo awunikwanga abambalwa, njengabafundisi kunye/okanye nabavangeli, kodwa bonke abazibiza ngegama likaKristu. Akukho unokuthi ukhululwe yena emsebenzini wokusasaza ivangeli, ingekho nenkokeli yebandla enokuthi yona inomsebenzi owodwa ecaleni. Izipho zikamoya zobukhokeli zinikelwe ngqo ukuba zakhe ibandla. Iinkokeli zebandla kudingeka ukuba zondle, zixhase, zikhuthaze ubunye. Uludwe lukaPawulos lwezipho zobunkokeli lusixelela ukuba ezi ndawo nazo zezokuxhobisa abantu bakaThixo ukuba bafikelele kwabalahlekileyo. Luxanduva lwabanye ababizwe ngendlela eyodwa phakathi ebandleni ukuba bancede abanye ukuba bakufeze oko bakuthunyiweyo nomsebenzi kaKristu, nokuba bawakhe umzimba kaKristu, "side thina sonke sifike kubo ubunye benkolo, nobokumazi okuzeleyo uNyana kaThixo, ebudodeni obupheleleyo, emlinganisweni wobukhulu bokuzala kukaKristu" (Efese 4:13). Umzekelo wohlobo lobunkokeli bukaYesu kufuneka ukhokele indlela esilungiselela ngayo. UYesu weza ukuze akhonze abanye kungakhonzwa Yena (Mat. 20:25–28); kufuneka siyokwenjenjalo.

Kukho umkhwa ebantwini wokuzimela poqo bangalawulwa mntu. Intlalo yaseNtshona ngokukodwa, inayo le ngxaki. UPawulos uyasikhumbuza, phofu, ukuba, akakho umKristu oyedwa kulo mhlaba, nokuba silusapho lokholo, sikunye neenkokeli zasemoyeni ukuba sincede sikhuthaze omnye nomnye kuhambo lwethu olunye. Sisonke, sihlangene, siyinxalenye yomzimba kaKristu.

Zeziphi izipho zikamoya onazo, kwaye uzisebenzisa njani kubunye bebandla lakho?

Ulwalamano Lwabantu KuKristu

UbuKristu yinkolo yolwalamano: ulwalamano noThixo kunye nathi ngabanye. Ayivakali into yokubanga ukuba nobudlelwane obunzulu noThixo baye obo budlelwane bungenagalelo kubudlelwane umntu anabo nabanye abantu. UbuKristu abukwazi ukuphila kwihamte. Imithetho-siseko yobunye uPawulos athetha ngayo kwincwadi yakhe eya e-Efese isebenza kwindlela esidlelana ngayo nabanye.

Funda: Efese 5:15–21. Uthini kuthi uPawulos kwindima yama-21? Luyintoni ulwalamano phakathi kokululama nobunye?

Isiyalo sikaPawulos sokuthobelana sihlanganiswe nesaci esithi, "Manizaliswe nguMoya" kumaEfese 5:18. Enye intetho engokuzaliswa ngoMoya ingokuthobelana. Oku kubhekisa kwingqondo eyiyo yokuthobeka nokucingelana ekufuneka sibe nako ngakwabanye abantu. Phofu ke, asiyiyo ingqondo yemvelo kubantu abaninzi kodwa isisiphumo sokuhlala kukaMoya ezintliziyweni zethu. Isisipho sikaMoya omnye, oliqhina lobunye kuKristu. Xa kubonwa ngolu hlobo, ukuthobela kuluphawu lwangaphakathi olubonisa ukuhlonipha kwethu uKristu nokuzincama kwaKhe ngenxa yethu.

Funda: Efese 5:22–6:9. Olu phawu lokuthobelana, omnye nomnye, lunagalelo lini kulwalamano lwethu singabantu, ekhaya nasemsebenzini wekholwa elikuKristu?

Ngokuyinxenye, ubunye ebandleni buxhomekeke kubunye ekhaya. UPawulos ucinezela ukuba ubunye, uthando nentlonipho, izinto ezimele ukubakho phakathi komyeni nenkosikazi, zimele ukubonakalisa ukuthanda kukaKristu ibandla, nothando lwaKhe lokuzincama. Ngoko ke, intlonipho efana nekaKristu ekhayeni nasenkonzweni ifuneka kubayeni nakumakhosikazi kunye nakumalungu ebandla. Olu phawu lufana nolukaKristu kufuneka lubonakale nakulwalamano phakathi kwabantwana nabazali naphakathi komqeshwa nomqeshi (amakhoboka neenkosi). Olu hlobo lokubambisana nokuzaliswa luxolo kufuneka lutyhutyhe amakhaya ethu, lutyhutyhe nobomi bethu basenkonzweni, ngokufanayo.

Ngumthetho-siseko othini onokuwufumana kwezi ndima namhlanje onokukunceda ukuba ukuqonde ngcono omawukwenze (kuxhomekeka kwimeko yakho) ngakwelinye ilungu losapho lwakho okanye komnye umntu osebenza kunye naye?

Ingcamango Eyongeziweyo:

Ellen G. White, "The Spirit of Unity," amaph. 179–188, in *Testimonies for the Church,* vol. 9. "UKristu wayewuqonda umahluko wobuzwe, okanye wodidi, okanye inkolo. Ababhali nabaFarisi babenqwenela ukuzuza ekuhlaleni nasesizweni ngazo zonke izipho zezulu, bebabeka ecaleni abanye abalusapho lukaThixo emhlabeni. UYesu Yena weza ukuba awise lonke udonga olwahlulayo. Weza ukuba abonise ukuba isipho saKhe senceba nothando siphangalele okomoya, ukukhanya, okanye imvula ewuhlaziyayo umhlaba."Ubomi bukaKristu bamisela inkolo engenamkhethe, inkolo ekuthi ngayo umYuda noweNtlanga, okhululekileyo nobotshiweyo, bonke bahlangane kubuzalwana obunye, belingana phambi kukaThixo. Akukho nto yamgaqo eyayiphembelela iihambo zaKhe. Akazange ahlule phakathi kwabamelwane nabasemzini, abahlobo neentshaba. Into eyayinomtsalane kwintliziyo yaKhe, yayingumphefumlo onxanelwe amanzi obomi."—Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church,* vol. 9, amaph. 190, 191.

Imibuzo Yokuxoxwa:

1. Cingisisa ngale ntetho: "Kwisahluko sesine kumaEfese icebo likaThixo lityhilwe ngokucace nalula kakhulu, ukuze bonke abantwana baKhe bayifumane inyaniso. Apha, indlela ayinyulileyo ukugcina ubunye ebandleni laKhe, nanokuthi amalungu ayiveze ehlabathini, ingamava enkolo ephilileyo, ivakaliswe ngokucacileyo."—Ellen G. White Comments, *The SDA Bible Commentary,* vol. 6, p. 1117. Ubona ntoni kumaEfese 4 eyalatha kubunye bebandla? Yintoni esinokuyenza ukuba sibuqinisekise obo bunye?

2. Sisembindini wobunye isidingo sokuthobeka nokuzithobela. Ngaphandle kwezi mpawu, bungakho njani ubunye ebandleni? Ukuba sinekratshi, siqinisekile ngeembono nezikhundla zethu, singakulungeli ukuphulaphula kwabanye, asinalo ithuba lobunye. Singakufunda njani oku kuthobeka nokuzithobela?

3. Singamanyana njani nokuba asisoloko sivumelana ngezinto zonke?

Isishwankathelo: Kwincwadi eya e-Efese, uPawulos unika iziyalo ezininzi ngokubhekiselele kwinto okuyiyo kumaKristu ukuba "kuKristu." Usindiso kuYesu luguqula ubomi bethu ngeendlela ezibambekayo. Konke ukwalamana kwethu, kuquka ukudlelana phakathi kwabazalwana noodade ebandleni, kuguqulwa ngamandla kaKristu ebomini bethu. Le nguquko ibalulekile ukuze sikwazi ukuba nobunye.