

Walk Worthy of Your Calling Ephesians 4:1-10

For three glorious chapters, the book of Ephesians lays out a theological foundation. With the start of chapter 4, comes instruction for how we should live in light of this foundation—“Therefore...walk worthy of the calling with which you have been called.” Each believer has been called to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do as we grow in Christlikeness. These works never save us, but are the natural outgrowth of Yahweh’s saving grace which we received through faith. The rest of the book details how we are to walk worthy of our calling.

Topic: We must not merely talk the talk; we must walk the walk. Ephesians 4:2-3 notes four hallmarks of the worthy walk—humility, gentleness, patience, and unity.

- Do you sense a tension in church between the emphasis placed on theology and on practical application for living? How are the two connected?
- Humility is not a virtue that the world embraces. Why is it important to our calling? (See Philippians 2:1-11).
- In what ways can you be gentle regularly? Why is gentleness not weakness?
- What is key to exercising patience? (See the last clause of Ephesians 2:2).
- Unity is to be kept, not made, according to Ephesians 2:3. What is the difference?
- Unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace is based on seven aspects. It tell us that there is:
 - one body**—the church
 - one Spirit**—the Holy Spirit
 - one hope**—resurrection
 - one Lord**—Jesus Christ, the Messiah, *Yahweh Saves*, God incarnate
 - one faith**—heartfelt belief in Jesus’ deity, sacrificial death, resurrection, an allegiance to His Lordship, and a worshipful devotion of Him
 - one baptism**—in response to faith; emblematic of obedience and connection to Christ
 - one God and Father**—of all who is over all and through all and in all
- What major doctrines are obvious when looking at these seven unifiers?

Association: Do you tend to emphasize practical Christian living or Christian theology more?

- Which of the four hallmarks from 4:2-3 are the most difficult for you to embrace?
- Does your faith journey include time in churches that make it seem like Christianity is all about “being good.”? If so, did legalism emerge? How does legalism square with Ephesians 1-3?
- How do you seek to keep unity with other believers? Do you like/employ the little saying, “In essentials, unity. In non-essentials liberty. In all things, charity”?
- How do *you* distinguish between what is essential and what is non-essential?

Guidance: Each of us has walked according the course of this world. How did you begin to collaborate with the Spirit to walk worthy of your calling? Provide the best advice to walking a worthy walk. Commit to praying for humility, gentleness, patience, and diligence to keep unity in yourself and your partner. Pray for and with each other.