

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:1-3 (NIV)

Follow Me

What kind of life is worthy of my calling? I'm not exactly sure what you mean? **If you wanted to live your life in a way that would please me how would you live it?** I know for sure what would not work and what would not be pleasing to you. **What's that?** You wouldn't be pleased to see me struggling in my own best efforts to try and please you. **Why do you say that?** First, of all I would fail miserably. Secondly, I would be trying to live a self-righteous life. Finally, I would be discouraged and depressed by my miserable efforts. I don't think you would want to see any of that. **No, I would not.**

Let's go back to the part about calling? What did I call you to be and do? You called me to be your child. You called me turn away from my sin to follow you. **If you focused entirely on trying to please me by the way that you were living what might you loose sight of?** I don't even want to use the word might. I would loose sight of the fact that I was your child. I would be so busy trying to live a certain way that I would forget to follow you. **Yes, you would.**

So, let's go back to my first question. What kind of life is worthy of my calling? A life that relies on you is a life that is worthy of your calling. **That's right. I didn't just call you to turn away from sin. I also called you to follow me. You will never be able to live the life I have for you, that is worthy of me, unless you follow me.** I get it.

I know that you want to be gentle and patient and humble. I know that you want to love others just as I love you. I know that you want to be a peacemaker that brings unity into every divisive situation. Yes, I do. **Where do you think all those desires came from in the first place?** They came from you. **Yes, they did. Do you believe that I will grant these desires that I have put into your heart?** Yes, I certainly do. **You must know that you will be none of these things with your own strength, by your own best efforts.** I'm absolutely certain of that. **You must also know that I will grant everyone of these desires because I have put them into your heart.** I am also absolutely certain that you will grant me these desires of my heart. **As you do what?** As I follow you and rely on you to do your work in and through my life. **Now, you do get it.**

Lord, it is my desire to live my life in every way that is worthy of your call. I will need your help and strength to do so. Develop in me the qualities of humility, gentleness and patience so I can love others and live in unity with them. Amen

Love *Worthy Of The Calling*

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

NIV Ephesians 4:1-3

Love *Worthy Of Your Calling*

Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.

NLT Ephesians 4:1-3

Love *Worthy Of The Calling*

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

NRSV Ephesians 4:1-3

Love *Worthy Of The Calling*

I THEREFORE, the prisoner for the Lord, appeal to and beg you to walk (lead a life) worthy of the [divine] calling to which you have been called [with behavior that is a credit to the summons to God's service, Living as becomes you] with complete lowliness of mind (humility) and meekness (unselfishness, gentleness, mildness), with patience, bearing with one another and making allowances because you love one another. Be eager and strive earnestly to guard and keep the harmony and oneness of [and produced by] the Spirit in the binding power of peace.

AMP Ephesians 4:1-3

Love *Worthy Of The Calling*

Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

NASB Ephesians 4:1-3

Love *Worthy Of The Calling*

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

ESV Ephesians 4:1-3

Love *Worthy Of The Calling*

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

NKJV Ephesians 4:1-3

Love *God Called You*

In light of all this, here's what I want you to do. While I'm locked up here, a prisoner for the Master, I want you to get out there and walk—better yet, run!—on the road God called you to travel. I don't want any of you sitting around on your hands. I don't want anyone strolling off, down some path that goes nowhere. And mark that you do this with humility and discipline—not in fits and starts, but steadily, pouring yourselves out for each other in acts of love, alert at noticing differences and quick at mending fences.

MSG Ephesians 4:1-3

Love *Worthy Of Those Who Have Been Chosen*

I beg you—I, a prisoner here in jail for serving the Lord—to live and act in a way worthy of those who have been chosen for such wonderful blessings as these. Be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Try always to be led along together by the Holy Spirit and so be at peace with one another.

TLB Ephesians 4:1-3

Love *God Called You*

I am in prison because I belong to the Lord. God chose you to be his people, so I urge you now to live the life to which God called you. Always be humble, gentle, and patient, accepting each other in love. You are joined together with peace through the Spirit, so make every effort to continue together in this way.

NCV Ephesians 4:1-3

Worthy Of The Calling

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Love – Ephesians 4:1-3

In Context: *Read Ephesians 4*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

As a | prisoner for | the Lord, | then, | I urge you | to live | a life | worthy of | the calling | you have | received. | Be completely humble | and | gentle; | be patient, | bearing with | one another | in love. | Make | every effort | to keep | the unity | of the | Spirit | through | the bond | of peace. Ephesians 4:1-3

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, it is my desire to live my life in every way that is worthy of your call. I will need your help and strength to do so. Develop in me the qualities of humility, gentleness and patience so I can love others and live in unity with them. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What kind of living is worthy of your calling as a follower of Jesus Christ?

What kind of living is unworthy of your calling as a follower of Jesus Christ?

How has the Lord been developing the quality of humility in you as you have followed Him?

When has the Lord recently used a difficult circumstance to develop patience in you?

How is the Lord teaching you to be gentle in the way that you respond to others?

How has your humility, gentleness, and patience helped you to love others?

When has the Lord used you to bring unity and peace into a potentially divisive situation?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Ask the Lord to help you to love others as you allow Him to develop humility, gentleness and patience in you.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help you to love others and live a life that is worthy of His calling.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord is developing humility, gentleness and patience in you.

Close With Prayer: ***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you allow the Lord to develop humility, gentleness and patience in you so you can live worthy of His call.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, help me to love others and live in a manner that is worthy of your calling on my life.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I live worthy of your call by patiently, humbly and gently loving others today?
