

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. Ephesians 4:1-3 (NLT)

Your Love

What kind of life would I need to live be worthy of your calling? Is living that kind of life even possible? I fall far short of living the kind of life that you lived. **Does that mean that you will give up trying to live a life that is worthy of your calling? Do you think that living a life that is worthy of your calling means that you must live a perfect life? If that is what you think, then you are right, that would be impossible. You will never be able to live a perfect life.**

What did you do when you heard my call? How did you respond to my calling? I confessed my sins to you. I turned away from the dark and sinful life that I was living. I received your forgiveness and cleansing of my sin. I accepted the new life that I had in you, as a free gift. **That's right. You could not earn or merit your forgiveness and cleansing by trying to live a perfect life. You couldn't do that then. You can't do that now.**

How is your life different from the life that you once lived? My life is completely different. You have made night and day different changes in my life. I am not the person that I once was. **So, you are allowing me to change your heart.** That's right. **You are allowing me to transform your mind.** That's right. **You are allowing me to guide your life.** You have changed the thoughts of my mind, the words of my mouth and the deeds of my life. **That's right. You are following me to where I lead you. You are doing what I ask of you.** Yes, I am.

Let's do a little recap. You are confessing your sins. You are following and serving me. You are allowing me to change your heart, transform your mind and guide your life. Yes, I am. **Why? Why? That's what I asked.** I am doing all these things because I love you with all my heart and mind and soul and strength. **Yes, you do. Is your love for me spilling over to others? Do you love others just like I love you?** Yes, I love others. Do I love others perfectly? No, I do not. But, you are helping me to love others with your love. **Yes, I am. Keep on loving me and others so will continue to live a life that is worthy of your calling.** Yes Lord, I will. **That will be very good.**

Lord, I have not always been humble and gentle. Sometimes, I have been just the opposite. Forgive me. I will live the life that you have called me to live. I will love others just you have loved me. Help me to love others and live in peaceful unity with them. Amen

Discipleship *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

Discipleship *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

Discipleship *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

Discipleship *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

Discipleship *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

Discipleship *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

Discipleship *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

Discipleship *Get Out There And Walk*

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

Discipleship *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.

TI R Ephesians 4:1-3

Discipleship *The Life To Which 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 Your Calling

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Discipleship – 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?)***

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

Lord, I have not always been humble and gentle. Sometimes, I have been just the opposite. Forgive me. I will live the life that you have called me to live. I will love others just you have loved me. Help me to love others and live in peaceful unity with them. Amen

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

When have you been everything but humble and gentle with others?

How are you putting up with the faults of others because you love them?

What faults of yours have others put up with because they love you?

How has the Lord developed patience in you as you have followed and served Him?

When have you seen disunity do harm to the witness and effectiveness of Christ followers?

How are you making every effort to live in peaceful unity with others?

How has the Lord used your love for others to be a witness in the world for Him?

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

Love others and live the life that God has called you to live.

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

Have faith that as you love others you will be living the life that God has called you to live.

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

Share with another person or your small group how you are living the life that God has called you to live.

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 love others as you live the life that you were called to live.

Prayer To Carry

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

Lord, I will love others as I live the life you have called me to live.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I love others and live the life you have called me to live.
