

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia Message...

Living Worthy of the Good News

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
May 10, 2026



What kind of wake are you leaving?

Big Idea: When you belong to heaven – you live differently on earth.

Philippians 1:27-30 (NLT) ***Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ.*** Then, whether I come and see you again or only hear about you, I will know that you are standing together with one spirit and one purpose, fighting together for the faith, which is the Good News. ²⁸ Don't be intimidated in any way by your enemies. This will be a sign to them that they are going to be destroyed, but that you are going to be saved, even by God himself. ²⁹ For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for him.³⁰ We are in this struggle together. You have seen my struggle in the past, and you know that I am still in the midst of it.

What does it look like to live a life worthy of the Good News of Christ? It looks like...

1) **Standing Firm Together in Unity.**

^{27b}“Then, whether I come and see you again or only hear about you, I will know that you are standing together with one spirit and one purpose...”

Ephesians 4:1-4 (NLT) “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.² Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.³ ***Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit,*** binding yourselves together with peace. ⁴ For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. ⁵ There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all.”

What step can you take this week to protect unity instead of feeding division?

2) **Striving Side by Side for the Gospel.**

^{27c}“...fighting together for the faith, which is the Good News.”

- **Who are you actively partnering with in the mission of Jesus?**
- **Where can you contribute in greater ways to the vision & mission of Sequoia?**
- **Who can you share the Good News of Jesus with this week?**

3) **Standing Fearlessly against Opposition.**

²⁸ “Don't be intimidated in any way by your enemies. This will be a sign to them that they are going to be destroyed, but that you are going to be saved, even by God himself.”

2 Timothy 1:7 (NLT) “For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.”

- **What would it look like to stand calmly and confidently in Christ this week?**

4) **Suffering Together for Christ.**

²⁹ “For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for him.³⁰ We are in this struggle together. You have seen my struggle in the past, and you know that I am still in the midst of it.”

- **When we see how much we are worth to God – we want to live in manner worthy of Christ's sacrifice – not to earn God's love, but because we already have it.**

2 Corinthians 3:5 (NIV) “Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God.”

Big Idea: When you belong to heaven – you live differently on earth.

Closing Challenge: What if this week, you lived with this awareness: “I am a citizen of heaven. Everything I do represents Jesus Christ.”

The Translation of the Bible Scriptures used today is the New Living Translation (NLT), and the New International Version (NIV).



**Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
Family of Servants on Mission.**

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

**Living Worthy of the Good News
#5 of 15 - May 10, 2026**

Context

1. Read Philippians 1:27-30. Paul writes from prison to encourage believers to “live as citizens of heaven.” What do you think Paul means by that phrase, and why would it have stood out to the Philippian church?
2. Paul repeatedly emphasizes unity (“one spirit,” “one purpose,” “fighting together”). Why do you think unity is so important for a church living out the Good News of Jesus?

Observation

3. Looking at Philippians 1:27-30, what are the four marks of a life “worthy of the Good News” that Paul highlights in this passage?
4. Read Ephesians 4:1-6. What attitudes and actions help protect unity in the church according to Paul? Which one stands out to you the most right now?

Meaning

5. The message emphasized that we live differently not to earn God’s love, but because we already have it through grace. Why is that distinction so important in the Christian life?
6. Philippians 1:29 says it is both a privilege to trust in Christ and a privilege to suffer for Him. How can suffering deepen our dependence on God’s grace and strengthen our witness to others?

Application

7. Where are you being challenged right now to “stand firm together” instead of drifting toward division, isolation, fear, or discouragement? What practical step could you take this week to grow in this regard?
8. The closing challenge asked: “What if this week, you lived with this awareness: ‘I am a citizen of heaven. Everything I do represents Jesus Christ.’” What would change in your conversations, attitudes, priorities, or relationships if you lived with that awareness every day this week?



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