DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



These discussion questions are designed to extend the impact of the Sunday message. You can use them for your personal Bible study, family study, and/or small group study.

Overview

Sermon: Live Worthy

"As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to **live a life worthy of the calling you have recei**ved. ²Be 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

Paul's letter to the Ephesian Christians could be divided into two halves: Truths about our *identity* and challenges to our *behavior*. Only when we grasp who God says we **are** can we live out that identity. In chapter 4, Paul pivots from talking about who we are to "how we are." He motivates not with fear or guilt but with the calling all believers share: The good news of God's grace in the gospel. (Phil. 1:27)

Though we are given adoption into God's family, Paul calls on us to live a life worthy of that gift through humility. The "worthy walk" is not a proud strut because we are God's children, but rather a humble walk characterized by gentleness and patience. We are to live in a manner that demonstrates the grace we have received. In that sense, "worthy living" is really "worthy loving."

Discussion

- 1. When was a time that you were given a title or role that impacted how you behaved? What about a time when you lost a title or role? How did that impact the way you acted or treated others?
- 2. Read Ephesians 4:1-2. Paul calls himself a "prisoner." (He may have been under house arrest when he wrote this letter.) How might that identity cause a person to feel or behave? But on what identity does Paul seem to focus?
- 3. The word "worthy" is a value word. List a few "identity descriptors" that Paul highlights in Ephesians chapters 1-3 that describe how God values us. How should those truths impact our behavior? Which of those truths is hardest for you to keep in mind?
- 4. In Eph. 4:2 Paul lists 4-character traits of "worthy living". Why do you think it is significant that humility is first? How do the other traits relate to humility? Which of them challenges you most?
- 5. In Ephesians 4:3-6 he finishes with an emphasis on unity. How do the traits he lists before unity, make unity possible? When is living in unity the most difficult for you? How can Paul's word's help with that challenge?

Application

- 6. What are some practical things you can do to live in unity thru humility at home and in church?
- 7. What are 2 or 3 ways you could keep the challenge of "living worthy" before you every day?



March 3, 2019