

## Live Worthy of Your Calling

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### Scripture Reading (3 minutes)

Have someone read **Ephesians 4:1-6** aloud:

"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. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

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### Discussion Questions (25-30 minutes)

#### Understanding God's Call

1. Pastor Phil reminded us that chapters 1-3 of Ephesians are all about how God called us. What does it mean that God has "called" you? What purpose is He calling you to?

#### The Four Heart Attitudes

##### Read through each attitude and discuss:

**HUMILITY** - Not seeing ourselves as better or more deserving than others - Where do you see pride showing up most in your life right now? - How does remembering that "we were dead" (Eph 2:1) and that God did the saving work help us stay humble?

**GENTLENESS** - Being mild-mannered; not letting others get under your skin - Think of a situation where someone's words or actions recently "got under your skin." How did you respond? - Jesus stayed focused on His goal even when mocked. What goal could help you stay gentle when provoked?

**PATIENCE** - Enduring through hardship; slow to avenging wrongs - Pastor Phil said, "Patience is hard, and my patience is different for different people." Who tests your patience the most? Why do you think that is? - How does remembering God's patience with you change how you approach being patient with others?

**BEARING WITH ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE** - Carrying each other's weaknesses; agape love - What's the difference between tolerating someone and truly bearing with them in love? - When has someone lovingly "borne with" one of your weaknesses? How did that impact you?

#### Living It Out

2. Paul says these attitudes lead to "unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (v.3). Can you think of a relationship where choosing one of these attitudes might bring more peace and unity?

3. What's one area of your life (work, home, church, neighborhood) where you sense God calling you to "make every effort" toward unity?

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### Personal Reflection (10 minutes)

Take a few minutes of silence for everyone to prayerfully consider:

**Which of the four heart attitudes do you struggle with MOST?** - Humility - Gentleness - Patience - Bearing with one another in love

**Write down:** 1. The ONE word you need to focus on 2. A specific situation or relationship where you know you need this attitude 3. What it might look like if you lived this out in that situation

**Consider Sharing:** would you share this with the group or one other person,

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**Ask if anyone would like to share, then pray for one another.**

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### Closing Application (5 minutes)

#### Remember:

- You were dead in your sins, but God made you alive (Eph 2:1-5)
- You didn't save yourself - God's grace saved you (Eph 2:8-9)
- God created you for good works (Eph 2:10)
- Living worthy of your calling is part of those good works

#### This Week:

- Set your chosen word as your phone background or write it on a post-it note somewhere you will see it often
- Share with your spouse or a close friend
- Each time you see that word or get that text, stop and pray: *"God, help me live worthy of your calling. Help me be [humble/gentle/patient/loving] right now."*

#### Next Time:

Come prepared to share: - How did you see God's word in your heart around these heart attitudes.

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### Closing Prayer

*"God, help us to live worthy of your calling. Give us the strength to be humble, gentle, patient, and to lovingly bear with one another. Help us when we struggle, and remind us of your grace when we fail. Use this in our lives to bring glory to your name. Amen"*