

# Life Group Homework

## WHAT IT MEANS TO WALK WORTHY

Ephesians 4:1-6

### Let's Get Started:

Any organization you may join obligates you to live up to the standards and expectations of that organization. It could be a sports team, a fraternity, or a social club. When we receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord of our lives, we become citizens of His kingdom and members of His family. The Lord expects His standards to become our standards, His desires to be our desires, and His nature to become our nature.

What are some of the new standards, new desires, and new nature characteristics that have become your pathway to growing and maturing as a Christian?

### Let's Dig In:

#### Our Calling:

Paul begins chapter 4 by saying, "I, therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called." By mentioning his imprisonment upfront, perhaps Paul is reminding us that walking worthy of Christ will sometimes be costly. Perhaps there has been a cost or a price you have had to pay for being a disciple of Jesus. If so, what is that cost and how has the Lord been with you and provided when there was a price to pay for your faithfulness to Him?

Look up the following scriptures and see if you can identify the common theme: Ephesians 1:4, John 6:44, Romans 8:30, Romans 11:29

What common theme did you discover? \_\_\_\_\_

## **Unity:**

Ephesians 4:3 says, “Eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” You can only “maintain” something that already exists. We sometimes make the mistake of thinking we are responsible for creating unity in the church, but Paul understood that Jesus has already created unity in His body. Our responsibility is to MAINTAIN UNITY by WALKING (LIVING OUT) HIS UNITY.

The question is: How do we “live out” unity in the body of Christ?

## **Humility: Unity Builder #1**

John Wesley observed that the concept of humility was so foreign to the Greeks and Romans, that they didn’t even have words in their languages to describe it. In your own words, explain what Paul wrote about Jesus in Philippians 2:7-8.

## **Gentleness: Unity Builder #2**

Many dictionaries define gentleness as being timid or lacking courage or spirit. Actually, just the opposite is true. Gentleness is more accurately defined as “power under control.” This brings up a great question. Is it a sin to get angry? Yes or no? Defend your answer with scripture.

## **Patience: Unity Builder #3**

Look up 1 Corinthians 13:4. What is the very first quality of love that Paul shows us? \_\_\_\_\_ On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 having no patience and 10 being extremely patient), rate how patient of a person are you—and why?

If someone asked you, “How does a Christian get better at being patient?” How would you answer them?

### **Tolerance: Unity Builder #4**

Culture has corrupted the definition of tolerance. How does the world wrongly define and apply tolerance today relative to morality, truth, and discerning right from wrong?

God has called the Christian to a higher definition of the word tolerance. In your own words, what is that higher definition as described by Paul in Ephesians 4:2 and by Peter in 1 Peter 4:8?

### **Let’s Live It Out Together:**

Read Ephesians 4:4-6. The theme here is the unity of the Spirit. It should be obvious that we are held responsible for “maintaining” the unity of Christ. Some would argue that this means we need to be tolerant and accepting of the teachings of any church or anyone who calls themselves a Christian—because we are called to be “one.” What do you think?