

Live a life worthy of the calling you have received

April 2024 (#1)

* Praise with joy : Hymn 393 "Great is Thy faithfulness", I do believe

* Bible verse : Ephesians 4 : 1-3

* Focusing on Words : Paul emphasizes a life worthy of the new identity of the believers who have received God's salvation in Jesus. He urges Jews and Gentiles to attain to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ by keeping eagerly united in Christ as triune Gods make the unity.

* Understanding the background : After he explained the amazing providence of God in detail, Paul urges the believers of Ephesian church to live a life worthy of salvation. He shows how to live this life with examples step by step.

* Sharing the Words

1. #. Observing & Contemplating : Read Ephesians 4 : 1-3

1) What is the life Paul urges you to live? (verse 1)

: It's the life worthy of the calling we have received. We all are the ones who have received the calling. Without God's calling, there would be no accepting Jesus and salvation. The calling is always driven by the purpose. (Ephesians 1 : 18) Living a life worthy of the purpose of calling is what God wants.

2) What is an example of living a life worthy of the calling? (verse 3)

: Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace is the one. Unity doesn't come by the power of ours but comes by the Holy Spirit in us. A life to keep eagerly united in Christ is the life worthy of the calling. All these do not mean much when you are alone. They matter when you are together in a church community. When you are together in a community, the changes, growth and maturity take place.

3) What do you have to have in order to make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit?

: - Humbleness and gentleness.

Jesus is humble and gentle in heart. Read Matthew 11 : 28,29. When you learn from Jesus being humble and gentle, you can make every effort to keep the community united.

- Patience

You can only have patience when you are in abundance with love through humbleness and gentleness. Remember the Lord prayed that he would love us until the end of the world. We must just like the Lord be patient and endure with the loving heart until the end of the world.

- Bearing with one another in love

You can only bear with one another when you admit you can make the same mistakes and wrongfulness. You can accept and forgive someone's mistake and wrongfulness when you recognise you are in abundance with mistakes as well.

#. Applying & Sharing

1) What do you think the fellowship of believers is? What does the bible say the fellowship of believers is?

: Share the characters that the bible says you have to keep every effort to have. Share what you are lacking with and what you are in abundance with. Share any other character which is necessary to have.

2) What are the things you have done in order to make every effort to keep the unity in the church? What is necessary the most in order to make every effort to keep God in your heart?

: Share what you need the most, to reflect on the Words and encourage each other.

* Conclusion : Remember you have received salvation and you need the wisdom to live a life worthy of the grace you have received. First of all, you must make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit. Please keep the unity by humbleness, gentleness, patience and bearing with one another in love.

* Prayer to reflect on the Words

1. Let the Inland Church and ranches in the church be filled with humbleness, gentleness. Let us make every effort to keep the unity of the community in the church.
2. Let the families of ranches be filled with faith. Let the children grow up in faith.
3. Let the 'Joy Sharing Festival' be filled with the abundance of grace. Let the festival be the great helping hand for the overseas' mission by participating, putting effort and devoting together.