

**Ephesians 4:1-3 - The Worthy Walk**

Intro - We are at the half way point in Ephesians. It can be read in 20 minutes, but we have had 20 sermons...so far. Chapter 4 starts the 2<sup>nd</sup> half which is really the 2<sup>nd</sup> step. 1-3 is full of deep, rich doctrine & theology. 1-3 focuses on practical doctrine (step 1). 4-6 is the practical application from the practical doctrine (step 2). 1-3 is what we are to *believe* and 4-6 is how we are to *behave*. Both belief & behavior are necessary for a balanced Christian walk. Our beliefs dictate our behavior. *Right beliefs* inform/lead to/bring/include *right behavior*. If your kind of belief doesn't improve your behavior, then you have the wrong kind of belief. *Belief & Behavior* are linked... and they are very much linked in Ephesians. The transition from the 1<sup>st</sup> half to the 2<sup>nd</sup> half could be described as going from *Step 1 to Step 2*. Think of it is as a gait, a walk...one step that follows the other. Ephesians calls us to a *Christian walk* not to a *Christian hop*. When my son broke his leg earlier this year, he hopped around our house for months...and he was thrilled to be able to walk with both legs. Christians are not to just hop around on one leg (belief or behavior) we are to walk with both. Ephesians 4 begins by calling us not just to walk but to have a worthy walk. We will note today that we are *CALLED TO WALK WORTHY* and also *HOW TO WALK WORTHY*.

**CALLED TO WALK WORTHY**

- Notice the circumstances of “*the walk*.” 4:1
  - The circumstances vary from person to person - Paul’s circumstance was prison.
  - 1 Cor. 7:20-24
  - Whatever circumstance you find yourself in is one which God has placed you.
    - You are to “*walk*” in that circumstance in a worthy way.
- Let’s get some definitions.
  - Walk = a description of how a person goes about life. Daily character/conduct
    - Psalm 1:1-2 Eph. 4:17-18 Eph. 5:8, 15
  - Calling = God’s sovereign & gracious drawing of a sinner to Himself in salvation
    - Rom. 8:30 CALLING is one link in the golden chain of salvation.
    - 2 Tim. 1:9 CALLING is part of our salvation and apart from our works.
    - 2 Peter 1:10 CALLING is linked to election and God’s choice of us. (2 Thess. 2:13-14)
- Our calling should impact our walking.
  - We have called with a holy calling which should lead to a holy walking.
    - Worthy walking is also something we are called to - 4:1
  - My son-in-law to his 2 year old - “*You are a Lunsford and Lunsford’s don’t whine.*”
    - He was calling his daughter to *act like a Lunsford* for she is a Lunsford.
  - We are called by God to be Christians, so we are act like Christians.
- Christians are to encourage Christians to act like Christians. 1 Thess. 2:11-12
  - Heb. 10:23-24
    - Encourage a steadfast unwavering confession. Beliefs
    - Encourage (spur/cattle prod) a holy conduct. Behavior

