

# “Lead a Life Worthy of Your Calling”

2022

Paul’s letter to the Ephesians

The Gospel Story...

Therefore...

How We Should Live Our Story

Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.

Ephesians 4:1

## What Part Are You Called to Play?

### Ephesians 4:16

He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As **each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.**

### Romans 12:3-11

Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us. <sup>4</sup> Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, <sup>5</sup> so it is with Christ’s body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.

<sup>6</sup> In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. <sup>7</sup> If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. <sup>8</sup> If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly...

Never be lazy but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically.

## Every Calling Experiences Brokenness

*Your calling is going to crush you.*

*If you are called to mend the brokenhearted you are going to wrestle with broken-heartedness.*

*If you are called to prophesy you are going to struggle to control your mouth.*

*If you are called to lay hands you will battle spiritual viruses and infirmities.*

*If you are called to preach and teach the Gospel you will be sifted for the wisdom that anoints your message.*

*If you are called to empower your self-esteem will be attacked.*

*If you are called to encourage and lift up, your failures and flaws will be highlighted and dragged through the mud of gossip and judgment.*

*Your successes will be hard fought. Your calling comes with cups, thorns, and sifting that are necessary for your mantle to be authentic, humble, and powerful. Your crushing won’t be easy because your assignment is not easy. Your oil is not cheap.*

## Blessing Comes with the Brokenness

### Ephesians 3:14-4:1

For this reason I bend my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, <sup>16</sup> that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner self, <sup>17</sup> so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; *and* that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup> may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled to all the fullness of God.

- Be strengthened through the Holy Spirit in Your Inner-Self
- By Faith, Let Christ Live in Your Heart
- Be Rooted and Grounded in Love
- Know and Experience What the Love Really Is
- Be Filled up With All God Is and Has to Offer

## God Is Able

- Not about shame or guilt
- Not about performance
- Not about what more you can do

<sup>20</sup> **Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,** <sup>21</sup> to Him *be* the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

- It's about believing...Faith...In what He can and is doing

**Therefore** I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to **lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.**