

A Life Worthy

Monday, 11/3/08 – Read Ephesians 4:1-6

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: The linchpin verse of Ephesians is 4:1 - "lead a life worthy of your calling." The first three chapters of Ephesians describe the calling, the incredible gift God has given us in Christ. Now in verse 4:1, Ephesians turns and asks us: Given all that God has done for us, how should we live our lives? What would you say? What do you think it would look like to live a life worthy of the love of God? Write down your answer.

Tuesday, 11/4/08 – Read Ephesians 4:17-24

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: Ephesians contrasts this new life, this "life worthy" of God's calling with the normal way that everyone lives. When you look at the way most people live, when you look at their attitudes and behaviors, how is that different from the worthy life God is calling us to. Write down your answer.

Wednesday, 11/5/08 – Read Matthew 7:21-23

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: Jesus was emphatic about this. Living faithfully is not just a matter of "talking the talk" -- we also got

to "walk the walk." What do you observe? Do you see some people who say "Lord, Lord," but don't "walk the walk"? Be specific.

Thursday, 11/6/08– Read Matthew 21:28-32

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: Today's reading is one of Jesus' wonderful stories. Probably you have sometimes felt and acted like each of these two sons -- sometimes saying "yes" when you really meant "no," sometimes saying "no" and later discovering that you really were willing to fulfill a request after all. Sometimes we have to say "no" before we can discover a deeper "yes." ... Think about your own experience. Can you think of a time when you needed to say "no" before you could say "yes"? Have you ever felt that way about something God wanted you to do? Have you ever said "no" to God and then later discovered a willingness to say "yes"?

Friday, 11/7/08 – Read Matthew 7:24-27

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: Our faith is finally a matter of action and behavior. What does Jesus say in today's reading? What is the consequence of hearing Jesus' words, even of believing in Jesus, but never putting it into action?

Saturday, 11/8/08 – Read 1 John 3:18, 4:13-21

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: A life worthy of God's call to us (Ephesians 4:1) is a life of love. Would you agree? ... Have you ever known someone who talked about love, someone who talked about God's love, but whose life was not loving? What did you think of that person? ... What is one thing you will do this week to put love into action?

Sunday, 11/9/08 – Read Philippians 3:12-16

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: When we talk about living our faith, it's easy to feel discouraged because none of us feels like we've done well enough. The apostle Paul was not bashful about claiming his spiritual achievements; but even Paul did not feel like he had reached the goal. But Paul points us in the right direction: it's not a matter of reaching the destination; faith is about persistence in the quest. Really it's about "keeping on keeping on." Write down one thing you'd like to do today and tomorrow to put your faith into action, to live a life worthy of God's call.

My Faith Journal, November 2, 2008

Becoming Grownups #7

The Good Life

What do I want to remember out of today's message?

What action do I intend to take as a result of today's message?

Each day this week, take a few minutes. Begin with PRAYER. Then READ through the Bible passage indicated on the inside of this guide. WRITE down your own thoughts, reactions, observations. ANSWER THE QUESTION to begin connecting the Bible with your life experience. Use additional paper or your own notebook if you need more space to write.

