*November 29, 2015 / Glorification of Christ / Worship Series*

“Living A Life Worthy of the Calling…”

*Hebrews 13:8 & 15 / Ephesians 4:1-16*

* We must make the LOVE of Christ our Competency.
* We must make the of Christ our Highest PRIORITY.

*Hebrews 13:8-15 NIV - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever… 15Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess his name.*

*Hebrews 13:15 NLT - Therefore, let us offer through Jesus a continual sacrifice of praise to God, proclaiming our allegiance to his name.*

*Romans 12:1 VOICE - Brothers and sisters, in light of all I have shared with you about God’s mercies, I urge you to offer your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice to God, a sacred offering that brings Him pleasure; this is your reasonable, essential worship.*

*Ephesians 4:1-16 NIV84 - As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. 2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. 3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called—5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. 7 But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. 8 This is why it says: “When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men.” 9 (What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? 10 He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) 11 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*

1. Let Us Live a Life of WORSHIP.

*Ephesians 4:1 VOICE - …Live a life that is worthy of the calling He has graciously extended to you.*

*Romans 12:1-2 MESSAGE - So here’s what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. 2 Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking…*

* *Hebrews 13:8 & 15*

*1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NLT - Don’t you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, 20for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.*

1. Let us Guard Our UNITY.

*Ephesians 4:2-3 VOICE - Be humble. Be gentle. Be patient. Tolerate one another in an atmosphere thick with love. 3Make every effort to preserve the unity the Spirit has already created, with peace binding you together.*

*Psalm 133 NKJV - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity! 2 It is like the precious oil upon the head, Running down on the beard, The beard of Aaron, Running down on the edge of his garments. 3 It is like the dew of Hermon, Descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the Lord commanded the blessing—Life forevermore.*

1. Let us Keep Our .

* *Ephesians 4:4-10*

*John 14:6 AMP - Jesus said to him, “I am the [only] Way [to God] and the [real] Truth and the [real] Life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.*

*Romans 1:16 NIV - For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.*

*Luke 18:8 NIV - …When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?*

*Hebrews 11:6 PHILLIPS - And without faith it is impossible to please him. The man who approaches God must have faith in two things, first that God exists and secondly that it is worth a man’s while to try to find God.*

*2 Timothy 4:1-5 VOICE – And now I bring you this charge before God and Jesus the Anointed, the one destined to judge the living and the dead, at His glorious appearance and His kingdom: 2go out and preach the word! Go whether it’s an opportune time or not! Reprove, warn, and encourage; but do so with all the patience and instruction needed to fulfill your calling 3because a time will come when some will no longer tolerate sound teaching. Instead, they will live by their own desires; they’ll scratch their itching ears by surrounding themselves with teachers who approve of their lifestyles and tell them what they want to hear. 4They will turn away from the real truth you have to offer because they prefer the sound of fables and myths. 5But you must stay focused and be alert at all times. Tolerate suffering. Accomplish the good work of an evangelist, and complete the ministry to which you have been called.*

*Acts 4:12 NLT - There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.*

1. Let us Serve With .

* *Ephesians 4:11-16*

*Ephesians 4:16 MESSAGE - …robust in love.*

*Luke 6:31 NIV - Do to others as you would have them do to you.*

*Luke 6:31 MESSAGE - Here is a simple rule of thumb for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you; then grab the initiative and do it for them!*

*2 Corinthians 13:11 NIV84 - …Aim for perfection…*

*Colossians 3:23-24 NIV78 – Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, 24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

*1 Corinthians 15:58 AMP - Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord [always doing your best and doing more than is needed], being continually aware that your labor [even to the point of exhaustion] in the Lord is not futile nor wasted [it is never without purpose].*