**The Worthy Life**

 *I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,****2****with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,****3****eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.****4****There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—****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 grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. (Eph 4:1-7)*

 For the believer, the “worthy” life is the life of faithfulness to Christ – the life of love. Greetings dear brothers and sisters as we join with our younger siblings in the Lord, to rejoice with at the grace of God (on the occasion of their confirmation). The Lord has established seasons for us as human beings. One of those is the transition from adolescence to adulthood in faith. This journey, as we confirm it with our candidates in just a bit, does not recognize age. The believer’s “worthy” life is a part of this journey – and it both shapes the journey to have the right qualities and facilitates that life-mission as well. Thus, today we’re going to be talking about the kind of life that the people of God, the people gathered as a church are called to. Again, for the believer, the “worthy” life is the one that is faithful to Christ, a life of love. Let’s take a closer look at this calling…

 A Christian is called to bring forth an attitude of unity in faith and relationships. The Apostle is clear in his explanation of that “worthy” journey. A believer’s calling is to meekness and humility. An attitude of bearing one another in love, agreeing in the Holy Spirit, and being bound by peace is the Christian Church’s calling. If the Lord is one, then our faith ought to be one (and the same), just as our baptism is one and God, who is with all of us, above us and yet still our Father, is one. It is within that unity that a Christian is to function according to the grace given by Jesus, both in amount and type.

 Imagine for a moment that a sports team decided to compete. If the team members did not obey the coach, what kind of result would the team have in that tournament? Or, in companies, what kind of work can succeed if the word or direction of the head does not somehow reach each worker? If an establishment does not have internal unity, how is it going to succeed in its program or vision?

 Today, we as believers are called to unity led by the Holy Spirit and love. Yes, today is the beginning of a new journey for our young people. However, the call to remain faithful is still for all of us. God has called the believer to act in a certain way towards the brother or sister. God has called us to unity, to harmony, to cooperation and to agreement.

 Today, whether you are going to be established in faith, or you have been a believer for decades, there is no difference in the call on your life. Each of us are called to live according to God’s standard – one of both faithfulness in belief towards Christ and faithfulness to Spirit and love-led relationships with each other.

 Therefore, as we get ready to accept and recognize our newest members within our church, may this calling in the Holy Spirit, this call to love and unity be renewed in all of us. May the Lord help us in that journey of faith and relationships to navigate our lives in a worthy fashion. The Christian is called to show unity in faith and relationships. For the believer, the worthy life is the one faithful to Christ, which is a life a love.