

Ephesians 4:1-6

Study 4: Live worthy



Reputations Matter

In the summer of 2018, word hit that James Gunn, director of *Guardians of the Galaxy 1* and *2*, would not be reinstated for a third film. Disney, the studio behind the films, fired Gunn for a series of offensive tweets (some from up to a decade ago), where he joked about some very serious subjects.

Disney stated “**the offensive attitudes and statements discovered on James’ Twitter feed are indefensible and inconsistent with our studio’s values, and we have severed our business relationship with him.**” While Gunn was truly sorry for his misjudged attempts at being a provocateur, the damage was done.

Reputations matter. Disney, possibly the world’s biggest family brand, expects its leading figures to live worthy of that brand. **How much greater is God’s demand that we live worthy of our calling?**



Why is Paul writing this?

- 1. Why does Paul begin by referring to himself as a prisoner? What special ‘qualification’ would that give him to command worthy living?*
- 2. Considering his audience of Jewish and Gentile believers, why does Paul address the importance of living worthily? How would this command be received differently (or similarly to us today)?*
- 3. There are a 5 key requirements of worthy living listed here. What are they? Are they distinctive, or do they sit together as one general principle?*
- 4. Notice the contrast between vv. 4-5 (‘one’ x 7) and v.6 (‘all’ x 4). What is the significance of this?*

Ephesians 2:11-22

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How does this apply to or influence us today?

1. Paul 'urged' his audience to live *worthily*. Thinking biblically, what would we urge believers (including ourselves) to do more of or differently?

2. What do we understand '*worthy living*' to mean?

3. What worldly pressures make it easy or difficult to live *worthily*? Think about the expectation for Christians to be morally good, as well as the pressure to compromise on certain issues.

4. What does it mean to '*make every effort*' with others (v.3)? Isn't it easier to simply avoid the people we don't get on with?

5. The focus here is still on unity (following our last session). How does living *worthily* help us achieve unity?