



## Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

### We are the Family of God September 19-21, 2020

*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[a] says:*

*“When he ascended on high,  
he took many captives  
and gave gifts to his people.”*

*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 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his 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 people in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of 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. What qualities characterize “a life worthy of the calling you have received?”

2. What “unity of the Spirit” is Paul referring to? What can Christians do to “keep” it?

3. In v. 7, is Paul referring here to “saving” grace or “equipping” grace?

4. Why did Jesus descend to earth, complete his work and then ascend to heaven?

5. What does Paul say is the pastor’s “job”? What does this mean for how a pastor uses his time?

6. For what purpose does a pastor carry out this job?

7. What are the effects of “spiritual immaturity?”

8. “speaking the truth in love.” Give an example of doing one without the other.

9. Agree/disagree: Christians should work together to create one large church body, rather than be so divided by denominations.