

THEREFORE

A BIBLE STUDY ON EPHESIANS 4:1-6

BY: REV. STEVE MANSKAR

FRAGMENT 2: 'A LIFE WORTHY OF THE CALLING' (EPH. 4:1)

Christian faith is about a way of life centered around Jesus – It's the way of self-giving, self-emptying love. "A life worthy of the calling to which you have been called" is echoed in the baptismal covenant. When we're baptized, we vow to reject the forces of wickedness, confess that Jesus is our savior, and promise to be faithful to the church, serving as Christ's representative to the world.

FOLLOW ALONG:

Watch the second fragment of Steve Manskar's Bible study and fill in the _____.

The cross that we are to take up is _____ to his teachings, which he summarizes in the Great Commandments

It is a life characterized by _____ - _____, _____ - _____ love.

In response to God's gift of our place in God's _____ and _____ in God's kingdom we renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of our sin.

And, using the grace God gives to us, we promise to serve as _____ in the world.

STRETCH IN THE SPIRIT:

Think of a person whose baptism you attended – or someone who you would like to support in their faith journey. Evoking the ritual of baptism, write them a note of encouragement about living a life centered around Jesus. Give or mail the note to them.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. What memories or stories do you have from your baptism?
2. Consider the three baptismal covenant vows. In what ways have you lived out these vows in your daily life?
3. Baptism is a community event with the congregation vowing to support the person being baptized in their Christian journey. What role does baptism play in the life of your congregation? How might you more intentionally help people remember their baptisms?

