



Sunday, December 8, 2019

MAKE A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — *“to obey is better than sacrifice”* (1 Samuel 15:22)

I. The **WEALTH** of the Believer (1:1-3:21)

II. The **WALK** of the Believer (4:1-6:9)

A. Walk **WORTHY**—**VERTICALLY** before **GOD** (4:1-32)

In Ephesians 4, Paul addresses our *“worthy walk”* as it relates **VERTICALLY BEFORE GOD**. In these verses he addresses some key areas which help **PREPARE** the believer be more effective in his ministry **HORIZONTALLY TOWARD OTHERS**. In order for each of us to **HORIZONTALLY** minister to others, we must first take care of our **VERTICAL** relationship before God.

B. Walk **WORTHY**—**HORIZONTALLY** toward **OTHERS** (5:1-6:9)

1. Walk in **LOVE DISPLAYING** the **LOVE** of **CHRIST** (5:1-2)
2. Walk in **LIGHT REFLECTING** the **LIGHT** of **CHRIST** (5:3-14)
3. Walk in **WISDOM** in the **WORD** of **CHRIST** (5:15-17)
4. Walk in **STEP** with the **SPIRIT** of **CHRIST** (5:18-21)

Keep in mind the context that this section falls within. Paul is speaking about our **INFLUENCE** in our **WORTHY WALK**, **HORIZONTALLY** toward others. The law of love is to determine our attitude. *“...but by love serve one another.”*—Galatians 5:13b
To **WALK IN LOVE** is to live a life of loving sacrifice to our Jerusalem as we display our supreme love for the Father.

- a. The **COMMAND** to Walk in the Spirit (18)
 - i. A **LACK** of **SELF-CONTROL** (18a)
 - a) The **COMMAND** to make a **CHOICE**
 - b) **FAILING** to **CHOOSE** brings **CHANGE**
 - c) The **CHANGE** brings a **CONSEQUENCE**
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- ii. A **LOT** of **SPIRIT CONTROL** (18b)

SELF-CONTROL IS BEST ACCOMPLISHED BY BEING CONTROLLED BY GOD'S SPIRIT.

1 Corinthians 6:12 All things are lawful [*permissible*] unto me, but all things are not expedient [*good for me to do*]: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power [*the control*] of any.

- a) The **COMMAND** calls for a deliberate **CHOICE**

Here in **Ephesians 5:18**, the implication here is a **CONTROLLING** or **DOMINATING INFLUENCE**. This idea is clearly seen in the usage of this Greek word in the NT (**John 16:6**; **Acts 5:3**; **Acts 5:17-18**).

- b) The **CONSTRUCTION** calls for a repeated **OCCURRENCE**

With the grammatical construction, Paul is saying, "Be constantly being filled with the Spirit" (Wuest).

- c) Our **CONDITION** calls for diligent **COOPERATION**

Being *Spirit-filled* is dependent upon our **YIELDEDNESS** to God's will.

Philippians 2:13 For it is **God** which worketh in you both to will [*desire*] and to do [*the power*] of **His** good pleasure [*perfect will*].

Galatians 5:16 This I say then, "Walk in the **Spirit**, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."

d) The **CHALLENGE** calls for a saturating
CONCENTRATION

Colossians 3:16 Let the Word of **Christ** dwell in you richly [*abundantly*] in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the **Lord**.

James 1:25 But whoso looketh [*to look with great care*] into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth *therein*, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

e) Our **COOPERATION** brings a delightful **CHANGE**

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face [*unobstructed view*] beholding as in a glass [*a mirror*] the glory of the **Lord**, are changed [*metamorphosis*] into the same image from glory to glory, *even as by the Spirit of the Lord*.

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the **Spirit** is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, **23** Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

1. A **SPIRIT-FILLED** Demonstration
 2. A **WORD-FILLED** Demonstration
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Being “*filled*” with God’s Spirit and being “*filled*” with God’s Word brings the same result because a Word-filled believer is dominated by **truth** therefore having the mind of Christ. It is through the work of the **SPIRIT OF GOD** as He takes **WORD OF GOD** and transforms the believer into the likeness of the **SON OF GOD**.



Our **WORTHY WALK** is further explained by **WALKING IN STEP** with the **SPIRIT of CHRIST**. A **COMMAND** is given to **YIELD** to the **SPIRIT’S CONTROL** by making a **DELIBERATE** and **REPEATED CHOICE**, participating in **DILIGENT COOPERATION** and **SATURATING CONCENTRATION** anticipating a **DELIGHTFUL CHANGE**.

What is my next step? Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.

What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (***Put OFF SIN***)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (***Renew your mind***)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (***Put ON CHRIST***)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must I demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will I most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!