



Sunday, July 5, 2020

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 (Ephesians 1:1-3:21)



A deeper study of these passages can be found on our YouTube channel. The link to our “Ephesians” playlist will be in the comments.

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

Our main emphasis has been, that a **humble understanding** of the PRINCIPLES of GOD’S WORD will lead to the PRACTICE of GOD’S WAYS.

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

1. Walk WORTHY (4:1)
2. Walk in UNITY—Your POSTURE in CHRIST (4:2-6)
3. Walk in MINISTRY—Your PURPOSE in CHRIST (4:11-12)

Ephesians 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.

B. Walk WORTHY—Horizontally toward Others (Ephesians 5:1-6:9)

Isaiah 6 gives us a great example of this. Isaiah's UPWARD LOOK: (Isaiah 6:1-4) / Isaiah's INWARD LOOK: (Isaiah 6:5) / Isaiah's OUTWARD LOOK: (Isaiah 6:8)

Our Worthy Walk FORWARD with LOVING MINISTRY MINDEDNESS
(Ephesians 4:11-12; 5:1-2)

1. Walk in **Ministry** Fulfilling CHRIST'S **Purpose** for You
(Ephesians 4:11-12)

- a. God's **Provision**—GIFTED MINISTERS (Ephesians 4:11)

The "*pastor teacher*" is an instructing shepherd who is to "*feed the flock of God*" (1 Peter 5:2) he has been entrusted with. He is called upon to HEED, LEAD, and FEED the flock that has been entrusted to their care (Acts 20:28).

- b. God's **Purpose**—GOSPEL MINISTRY (Ephesians 4:12)

- i. **Equipping** the SAINTS of CHRIST
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- a) The **Process** of "PERFECTING" is by the
MINISTRY of the WORD
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2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

- b) The **Purpose** of "PERFECTING" is for MINISTRY
WORK

Consider Christ's last commands before His ascension: He said, "*...and ye shall be witnesses unto Me...*" (Acts 1:8)—to BE MY WITNESSES.

He said, "*...teach all nations...*" (Matthew 28:19)—MAKE DISCIPLES

- ii. **Edifying** the BODY of CHRIST
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Romans 12:9-10 Let love be without dissimulation [*hypocrisy*]. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. **10** Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another [*preferring honor for one another*];

2. Walk in LOVE displaying CHRIST'S Love for You (5:1-2)

Galatians 5:13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

a. LOVE like the Father (Ephesians 5:1)

Cf. Ephesians 4:24; 1 John 4:7-10, 20

b. LOVE like the Son (Ephesians 5:2)

To be a "follower of God" is to "walk in love." How? "*as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.*"

i. His love was a pattern for us

Matthew 20:28 Even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many. (cf. John 15:13)

ii. His love was a propitiation for us

Christ also gave Himself as our substitute. This is the highest expression of Christ's love in that He loved us to the point of death. Sacrificial love is the highest form of love.

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the Just [One] for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

iii. His love was a pleasure for the Father

Christ also sets the pattern of worship for us to follow in sacrifice (cf. Romans 12:1-2).



Our WORTHY WALK FORWARD is marked by LOVING MINISTRY MINDEDNESS. We are to "do the work of the ministry" in our HORIZONTAL RELATIONSHIPS, by faithfully following the PATTERN that Christ set for us. We are to be motivated by a loving gratitude for His LOVING SACRIFICE on our behalf. Our love for others is to be an act of worship—a sweet-smelling savor that is PLEASING to our Heavenly Father.

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!