



Sunday, July 19, 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 in the “Ephesians” playlist.



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

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

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)

The message of Paul’s letter to the saints in Ephesus can be simplified as LOOK UP, LOOK IN, and LOOK OUT. The first 3 chapters directs us to LOOK UPWARD and see God for Who He is and what He has done.

1. Walk in Ministry FULFILLING CHRIST’S Purpose for You (Eph. 4:11-12)
2. Walk in Love DISPLAYING CHRIST’S Love for You (Ephesians 5:1-2)
3. Walk in Light REFLECTING CHRIST’S Light in You (Ephesians 5:3-14)

4. Walk in Step with the Spirit, submitting to Christ's Spirit in You (Ephesians 5:18-21)

CONTEXT: Paul is speaking about our INFLUENCE in our WORTHY WALK, HORIZONTALLY toward others.

The law of love is to determine our attitude (Galatians 5:13).

Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of Wisdom: and the knowledge of the Holy *[One]* *is* understanding.

a. The Command to Walk in the Spirit (18)

i. A Shortage of Self-CONTROL (18a)

a) The Command to make a CHOICE

Paul commands against losing control. He is commanding his audience to MAKE A CONTINUOUS AND REPEATED CHOICE to practice self-control.

b) FAILING to choose brings a DESTRUCTIVE Consequence

Ephesians 5:8 For ye were sometimes [*at one time/ formerly*] darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

ii. Submission to SPIRIT CONTROL (18b)

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

"be filled" – the implication here is a CONTROLLING or DOMINATING INFLUENCE. (cf. John 16:6; Acts 5:3; Acts 5:17-18)

b) The CONSTRUCTION calls for Repeated
OCCURRENCE

The believer is indwelt by God's Spirit at the moment of salvation (Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

c) Our CONDITION calls for diligent
cooperation

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*].

d) The CHALLENGE calls for a saturating
concentration

To be Spirit-filled is to be saturated by God's Word (Colossians 3:16).

James 1:25 But whoso looketh 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

Notice the parallels found in Colossians 3:16-4:1 and Ephesians 5:18-6:9. There is a SPIRIT-FILLED Demonstration in Ephesians and A WORD-FILLED Demonstration in Colossians.



Our WORTHY WALK is marked by SPIRIT-FILLED MINISTRY MINDEDNESS. We are to walk in STEP with the SPIRIT, SUBMITTING to CHRIST'S SPIRIT in You. 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!