



Sunday, July 12, 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)

To “*walk worthy*” of your calling is to live in such a way that what we were saved for and the way we live are in balance—both having equal weight. Paul begs us to live in balance with what we were saved for.

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** (Eph. 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**.

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

Paul turns to our INFLUENCE. Following his call for us to love like our heavenly Father by imitating the sacrificial love of our Savior, we are now called upon to walk in light in the way that we love.

- a. The **Darkness** of the WORLD (3-6)
- b. The **Light** of CHRIST (Ephesians 5:7-14)

He reminded us of WHO WE WERE (Eph. 5:3-6) and will now remind us of WHO WE ARE (Eph. 5:7-14).

1 John 2:10 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

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.

1 John 3:10-11 In this the children of **God** are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of **God**, neither he that loveth not his brother. **11** For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

- i. The **Commanded** Walk (Ephesians 5:7)
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- ii. The **Contrasted** Walk (Ephesians 5:8-9)

- a) The Believer's **Past** (8a)

Colossians 1:13 **Who** [*the Father – Col 1:12*] hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of **His** dear **Son**:

1. They were **SPIRITUALLY** **deceived**

Ephesians 4:17-18a This I say therefore, and testify in the **Lord**, that ye henceforth walk [*live*] not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity [*depravity*] of their mind, **18** Having the understanding darkened [*spiritually ignorant of God's truth*], ...

2. They were **SPIRITUALLY dead**

Ephesians 4:18b ...being alienated [*separated*] from the life of **God** through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness [*hardness*] of their heart:

Jesus is “LIFE” (see also John 14:6; John 11:25-26)

John 8:12 Then spake **Jesus** again unto them, saying, “I am the light of the world: he that followeth **Me** shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

b) The Believer’s **Position** (Ephesians 5:8b)

1 John 1:5 This then is the message which we have heard of **Him**, and declare unto you, that **God** is light, and in **Him** is no darkness at all.

POSITION OF INFLUENCE—“*Ye are the salt of the earth*” & “*Ye are the light of the world*” (Matthew 5:13-14).

c) The Believer’s **Privilege** (Ephesians 5:8c)

With great privilege comes great responsibility

1 Peter 2:9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises [*excellencies / virtues*] of **Him Who** hath called you out of darkness into **His** marvellous light:

d) The Believer’s **Proof** (Ephesians 5:9)

iii. The **Commended** Walk (Ephesians 5:10)



Our WORTHY WALK is marked by JERUSALEM MINISTRY MINDEDNESS. We are to live a life of influence, REFLECTING the LIGHT of CHRIST, toward our HORIZONTAL RELATIONSHIPS. Be REMINDED of your PAST to the degree that you understand your new POSITION and PRIVILEGE as a light-bearer of Christ. As we “*walk as children of light*” we are to bear the fruit that give PROOF of authentic Christianity in PRAISE to our God.

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!