

Sunday, August 9, 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)
- B. Walk Worthy—<u>Horizontally</u> toward <u>Others</u> (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.

Here in chapter 5 we are directed to LOOK OUTWARD and see others as God sees them.

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

- 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 <u>Step</u> with the Spirit, SUBMITTING to CHRIST'S <u>Spirit</u> in You (Ephesians 5:18-21)

Our Worthy Walk FORWARD with SUBMISSIVE MINISTRY MINDEDNESS (Ephesians 5:21)

5. Walk in <u>Submission</u>, SERVING OTHERS around You (Ephesians 5:21)



Biblical submission does not refer to equality but HIERARCHY. It carries the idea of *willingly placing yourself under*. This command is for a <u>WILLING</u> **SUBMISSION**.

Paul clarifies the **MOTIVATING FACTOR**. Our submission to others is not because of fearing others but instead because we fear God (Proverbs 9:10).

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the **LORD** *is* the beginning of knowledge: *but* fools despise **Wisdom** and instruction.

a. The Role of Humility

Biblical *submission* fights against pride. Pride DEMANDS ONE'S OWN WAY while HUMILITY GIVES WAY—it does not demand its own rights.

Proverbs 13:10 Only by pride cometh contention *[strife]*: but with the well advised *is* **Wisdom**.

1 Peter 5:5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for **God** resisteth the proud [*the one insisting on his own way*], and giveth grace [*divine help*] to the humble [*the one submitting to God's way*].

b. Some Examples of Humility

Each of these examples of humility were used by God to ministry to the hearts of those in their Jerusalem. They had a ministry of Gospel influence because of a submissive ministry mindedness.

i. Jesus' Humble Mindset (Philippians 2:5)

John 6:38 For I came down from heaven, not to do Mine own will, but the will of Him that sent me.

John 6:40 And this is the will of Him that sent Me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Jesus' submission in His ministry (John 13:4-5, 12-17).

Jesus' submission leading to His death (Luke 22:41-44).

Jesus' submission in His death (Philippians 2:5-8).

ii. Stephen's Humility in Ministry (Acts 7:54-60)

iii. Paul's Humility as a Missionary (Acts 16:25-31)

Paul's testimony of submissive ministry mindedness reveals a man who sought to serve others in submission to God at any cost (2 Corinthians 11:23-27).



Do you find yourself fighting against the roadblocks of life?

What is the effect of your influence upon those in your Jerusalem?



Our WORTHY WALK is marked by SUBMISSIVE MINISTRY MINDEDNESS. We are to walk in SUBMISSION, SERVING OTHERS, seeking to meet their greatest needs as we SUBMIT TO

God.

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



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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:_____

- 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* <u>OFF</u> 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 <u>ON</u> 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 <u>not</u> 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!