



## Walk - Our Life In the World

### Key idea:

Every Christian is called to draw upon the power and blessing of being seated with Christ to enable them to develop a lifestyle that follows the biblical pattern for disciples.

### Key text:

Ephesians 2:8–10

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 4:1–3

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup> eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:17-24

Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. <sup>18</sup> They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. <sup>19</sup> They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. <sup>20</sup> But that is not the way you learned Christ!—<sup>21</sup> assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, <sup>22</sup> to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, <sup>23</sup> and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

### Key points:

1. The power to walk worthy of our calling flows from the fact that we are seated with Christ in heaven.
2. In Ephesians the term “walk” refers to actions that are consistent with a biblical pattern of life.

3. Paul lists many different facets of a biblical pattern of life. The five we focused on are:
  - (1) WALK in unity with the church
  - (2) WALK differently than the surrounding culture
  - (3) WALK in truthful, wholesome, uplifting speech
  - (4) Walk in sexual purity
  - (5) WALK in God's pattern for the family
4. A biblical pattern of life will always be out step with the culture around the believer. To be in step with the Spirit is to be out of step with the world.

**Questions for discussion/application:**

1. What part of Sunday's text and teaching stood out most to me? Why?
2. How does Paul remind us that the power to WALK flows from the fact that we already SIT with Christ in heaven? Why is this important?
3. Two major categories in God's Word are Law (God's commands) and Gospel (God's promises and provisions). Is SIT law or Gospel? Is WALK law or Gospel? Why does this matter?
4. Scripture reveals three main purposes or uses for God's Law:
  - (1) To restrain evil in civil society
  - (2) To convict us of our sin and point us to Christ and His Gospel
  - (3) To show Christians how the Spirit is working to conform us to Christ, pointing out how to live in a manner that is pleasing to God and for our good.

Which of these three purposes is the primary way Paul uses the WALK commands in Ephesians? Why is it important for me to understand this?

4. How are the commands to WALK in each of the five facets of a biblical pattern of life (see key point 3 above) counter-cultural? How would the world tell me to walk in each of these areas? How does Scripture command me to WALK differently than this?
5. Which of the five facets of a biblical pattern of life (see key point 3 above) is the Holy Spirit showing me I need to grow in? How can I draw upon the power of Christ to change in this area?
6. Whom can I pray for, share what I have learned, and invite to church this week?

**Preview of next week: Stand - Our Warfare With the Enemy (Ephesians 6:10-20)**