Walking Closer To Christ
Philippians 3:15-21

Stand and Read
v14 *I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.*
v16 Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind. Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.
v18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things.
v20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

Luke 6:12 *Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.*
Matthew 4:4 *But He answered and said, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' "*
Matthew 20:26-28 *...whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave— just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*
Colossians 2:6-10 *As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving...For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him.*

God Will Reveal His Truth To Us v15

Do you know how the Lord reveals spiritual complacency to His children?
A: Through **Trials**, **Suffering**, and **Chastening**

Hebrews 12:6 *For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.*
Samuel Rutherford; *"Faith learns to kiss the hand of her striking Lord."*

Lets Mature Together v16
1 Corinthians 1:10 *Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.*

New Slide
3 Practical Ways to *Walk Closer to Christ*
1. Follow A Good Example v17
1 Corinthians 11:1 *Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.*
1 Timothy 4:12 *Let no one despise your youth, but **be an example** to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.*
2. Flee From False Teachers vv18-19
Matthew 7:15 *Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.*
2 Peter 2:1 *But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.*
Jude 4 *For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.*

CS Lewis; “Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in. Aim at earth and you will get neither.”

1 Timothy 6:10 *For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*

3. Focus On Heaven v20-21

John 14:1-3 *Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.*

Romans 8:18-19 *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.*

John 3:16-17 *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.*