

Message title: Walking with God

Big Idea: Real faith & devotion are needed to really walk with God.

Your relationship with God is not about the things you do but the heart you have for the Lord.

7:1 After these things Jesus walked in Galilee; for He did not want to walk in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill Him.

1. Seek what is wise.

2 Now the Jews' Feast of Tabernacles was at hand.

2. Seek what is written.

Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, **25** not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

3 His brothers therefore said to Him, "Depart from here and go into Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing. **4** For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world."

5 For even His brothers did not believe in Him. **6** Then Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready.

Timing is one of the most important parts of walking w/God.

3. Seek His timing.

7 The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it that its works are evil.

When a spiritual work starts the battle begins with convictions, temptations & even persecutions!

4. Seek His judgments.

8 You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, for My time has not yet fully come." **9** When He had said these things to them, He remained in Galilee. **10** But when His brothers had gone up, then He also went up to the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret.

5. Seek His ways.

Isaiah 55:8 "For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, Nor *are* your ways My ways," says the LORD.

The way the Lord might lead you to do something might not make sense to someone esp. if they don't walk w/God.

11 Then the Jews sought Him at the feast, and said, "Where is He?" **12** And there was much complaining among the people concerning Him. Some said, "He is good"; others said, "No, on the contrary, He deceives the people." **13** However, no one spoke openly of Him for fear of the Jews. **14** Now about the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and taught. **15** And the Jews marveled, saying, "How does this Man know letters, having never studied?" **16** Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. **17** If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or *whether* I speak on My

own *authority*. **18** He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him.

6. Seek His glory.

When we seek God's glory, we don't care about the credit.
We care about pleasing God & helping people.

Group Discussion Leader Guide

LIFE Group Guide:

General Timeline Guide: (Adjust as appropriate for your group's needs.)

5-10 minutes connecting personally with how everyone is doing.

45 minutes going over message with discussion questions and life applications.

5-10 minutes praying for each other

Discussion Questions

Look over these questions before your group time. Write down your answers or ideas for at least a few questions if not all. You may not get to every question during your time, but speak up if you want to talk about one of them in particular. Always try to start with question #1.

1. What stood out to you and/or what do you think God might be speaking about from this message?
2. What's the difference between reporting on your religious activities and describing your actual relationship with God?
3. How does being part of a faith community help protect us from isolation and deception?
4. Why is it important to trust God's definition of sin rather than the world's? What areas of life do you find this most challenging?
5. What are signs we may be seeking our own glory?
6. How does understanding there's a real spiritual battle help you persevere in trials, temptations or persecution?
7. What are good ways for us to check our hearts not just our activities?