

## Walking with God: Never Alone 1

### Rules vs. Relationships

Online Service May 23–24, 2020

**He has shown you**, O mortal, **what is good**. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and **to walk humbly with your God**.  
— Micah 6:8

... For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said:  
“I will live with them and **walk among them**, and **I will be their God**, and **they will be my people**.”  
— 2 Corinthians 6:16

“**Come, follow me**,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.”  
— Matthew 4:19

#### God invites us to walk with Him

**Genesis 3:8** “Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day ...”

### I. Walking Together — A Choice

#### Relationships are a choice

**Amos 3:3-4** (NIV) <sup>3</sup> Do two walk together unless they have agreed to do so? <sup>4</sup> Does a lion roar in the thicket when it has no prey? Does it growl in its den when it has caught nothing?

#### God chose to initiate the relationship

**John 3:16–18** (NIV) <sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. <sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.

### II. Relationships are Strengthened by Rules — A Bond

**Deuteronomy 5:33** (NIV) <sup>33</sup> **Walk in obedience** to all that the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live and prosper and prolong your days in the land that you will possess.

#### Shared values increase trust

**Ruth 1:15–17** (NIV) <sup>15</sup> “Look,” said Naomi, “your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her.”

<sup>16</sup> But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. <sup>17</sup> Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.”

#### Ruth chose to value God and a new way of life

### III. No One is Perfect — An Admission

**Romans 3:22-24** (NIV) <sup>22</sup> This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

#### The relationship cure — Faith in Jesus

- Watch our TV Program “Growing Closer to God” on NBC 4 Sundays at 12 Noon

**This Week’s Bible Readings (Use the TCND App if you want to listen):**

- Sat Rest  Sun Catch Up!; 1 Chron 3-5
- Mon Catch Up!; 1 Chron 6  Tue Mark 15:42-47; 1 Chron 7-8
- Wed Mark 16; 1 Chron 9-11  Thur Luke 1:1-25; 1 Chron 12-14
- Fri Luke 1:26-38; 1 Chron 15-17  Sat Rest