

Empowered Series: "How's Your Walk?"

Sunday, July 23, 2017

Theme: Empowered: to give someone authority; help them claim their rights (empowered to do what...for what purpose? TO BE WITNESSES OF WHAT GOD HAS DONE IN OUR LIVES)

Scripture Reference: Galatians 5:16-26 (ESV)

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, ^[d] drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do ^[e] such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Keeping in Step with the Spirit *Fitbit

Empowerment- Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses..."

Where we were once...

LOST--God found us and called us His own, adopting us into His family. (Eph. 1:5)

Predestined- CHOSE IN ADVANCE. No longer slaves to sin but now slaves to righteousness (Rom. 6:17-18) and sons and daughters of the Most High God.

POOR--God MADE US RICH in Him and in the fruits of His Holy Spirit. Where we lacked direction, God gave us purpose. Where we lacked substance, God provided for us. (Gal. 5:16-26) *Not always about "doing what makes me happy."

BOUND--God SET US FREE! For whom the Son sets free is free indeed! (John 8:36) God chose to place His Son, Jesus, in our place on the cross and in doing so He heaped every sin that ever was and ever will be committed upon His back and Jesus carried the weight of us all. (2 Cor. 5:21) That became His "weight of glory." (2 Cor. 4:16-18) What's yours?

MISERABLE--God GAVE US JOY! Misery can become so overwhelming, we can feel almost claustrophobic surrounded by it and we know "misery loves company," which doesn't end up helping anyone in the end. A verse that always astounds me in regards to joy, (Hebrews 12:1-2). We were and are his joy yes, but also obedience to the Father brought Jesus joy. Can we say that today?

"How's Your Walk?"