

Enoch walked faithfully with God Hebrews 11:5

Hebrews 11:5 "By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God."

How do we walk faithfully with God?

1 Corinthians 9:24-26 "Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! All athletes are disciplined in their <u>training</u>. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. So I run with purpose in every step."

1 Timothy 4:7 "Train yourself to be godly."

I. Stop Trying and Start Training. Trying is an attempt to change with minimal commitment.

Trying never produces consistent results.

Training is wholehearted commitment to achieve a specific result. **Training** doesn't act according to feelings, it acts according to a **<u>commitment</u>**.

II. Choose carefully who you listen to.

Psalms 1:1-3

¹ Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers,
² but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night.
³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither whatever they do prospers. **1 Corinthians 3:19** *"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight."*

Acts 17:21 "(All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)"

Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."

Proverbs 9:10 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

James 1:5-8 "If anyone lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. 6 But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. 7 That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do."

1 Kings 18:21 "Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him." But the people said nothing."

Proverbs 29:25 "Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe."

III. Start Training where you are.

When I'm trying - I'm <u>Hoping</u> to become something I'm not. When I'm training - I'm <u>Getting Better</u> at what I already am!

- Bible reading and study not just trying I'm training to know God's word.
- **Prayer** not just trying harder I'm training to be a person of prayer.
- Marriage not just trying harder I'm training to have a great marriage!
- Parenting not trying harder I'm training to be a godly parent!
- Be a better example of Christ not trying I'm training to be more like Jesus!

IV. Focus on the Deeper "Why".

Joshua 24:15 "But if it seems wrong in your opinion to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve. Choose the gods whom your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you live. BUT AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE WE WILL SERVE THE LORD."

Philippians 1:21 "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."

Until you find the "deeper why" for the change you want to happen, it will be difficult to stay committed.