

|Mission Harvest Baptist Church

Preparing with God: "Glory in the Church" Pt. 3 – *Walking Worthy* 101

Intro: While the first half of the Book of Ephesians is about our **WORTH** in Christ, the second half of the book is about our **WALK** in Christ. We ended Ephesians 4 with the observation that we move towards the thing that we focus on. If we focus on the list of "don'ts," we will get right up to the line without crossing it; if we focus our purity, we will become more carnal (and less gracious) because we are really focusing on *self*. Yet the opposite is also true: if we focus on the Lord – learning of Him and walking with Him – He will make us pure, and we will become a "sweetsmelling savour" unto our heavenly Father.

1. Walk worthy by walking _____ Him. (Eph. 4:2-16; Eph. 4:13; Matt. 11:29; 2 Pet. 3:18)

Eph. 4:13 –

Matt. 11:29 –

2 Pet. 3:18 –

KEY TAKE: *If you want to walk worthy, the most important thing you can do is spend time with Christ and continuously learn how He walked.*

2. Walk worthy by _____ walking like the world. (Eph. 4:17-32)

The second thing God told us about walking worthy is a WARNING: DON'T WALK LIKE THE WORLD and DON'T WALK WITH THE WORLD. DOING SO WILL RESULT IN THE FOLLOWING:

- A walk of *vanity* (emptiness)
- A walk in *darkness* and *blindness*, void of light
- A walk lacking *purpose* and *hope*
- A walk that is compelled by (and limited to...) the *desires* and *capabilities* of your *flesh*
- A walk in a *rut* (the "old man")
- A walk that gives over a *foothold* to the *devil* in your life
- A walk that ultimately *hurts* those closest to you

KEY TAKE: We have the strange ability to justify ourselves. We measure others by their actions, but we measure ourselves by our intentions.

Rom 2:15 – Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, the conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;"

If you want to walk worthy, you need to clearly understand and identify what it is to walk unworthily of the price Christ paid to free you (like and with the world).

3. Walk worthy by walking in _____. (Eph. 5:1-7; Gen. 22:1-2; Gen. 22:11-12; Rom. 5:8)

Gen. 22:1-2 –

Gen. 22:11-12 –

Rom. 5:8 –

When we walk in this love, we see four things:

- *This is a love that is UNCONDITIONAL and SACRIFICIAL in nature.*
- *This is a love that COMPENSATES for the past and CONCENTRATES on the future.*
- *This is a love that takes INITIATIVE, even when others are undeserving.*
- *This is a love that takes headship in ASSESSING and MEETING needs.*

For this reason, God calls out the antithesis of this biblical love in v. 6 ("these things")

- *Fornication: self-gratifying/pleasing*
- *Uncleanness: self-permitting*
- *Covetousness (Idolatry): self-desiring*
- *Filthiness: self-excusing*
- *Foolish Talking: self-knowing*
- *Jesting: self-promoting*
- *Not Giving Thanks: self-exalting*

KEY TAKE: *If you want to walk worthy, you must walk because you love God for who He is (not what He's done for you). You must esteem Him more than you esteem yourself and others.*

4. Walk worthy by walking in LIGHT (Eph. 5:8-14; John 1:4-5; John 1:9)

John 1:4-5 –

John 1:9 -

12x in Eph. 1 God told us that the born-again believer is "in Christ." That means they are in Light.

Here in Eph. 5 God is saying, "I took you out of darkness and brought you into the light. Now act like it!"

KEY TAKE: *If you want to walk worthy, you must walk unashamedly in the light – eyes wide open – not hiding or concealing anything from God in your life.*