YOUR WEEKLY WALK: Jan. 21-27, 2019

Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called. (Eph. 4.1)

A 7-day devotion based on the sermons of the week to help reinforce God's Word in your daily life.

MONDAY, Jan. 21 (Sunday morning sermon)

<u>READ ABOUT IT: 2 Thes. 3.1</u>: Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you.

<u>THINK ABOUT IT</u>: Paul made a very important request of the church at Thessalonica: 'Pray for us.' Paul knew if anything was going to be accomplished for the Lord it would be through, by, and because of prayer. Prayer is indispensable to the life and health of any church. A praying church is a powerful church, just as praying Christians are powerful Christians. That power is the Holy Sprit of God. If you want to be used greatly of God and see God work in a great way, then you must be a person of prayer.

<u>PRAY ABOUT IT</u>: Father, help me to be a person of prayer; help me to make sure prayer is an indispensable part of my life.

TUESDAY, Jan. 22 (Sunday morning sermon)

READ ABOUT IT: 2 Thes. 3.13: But for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good.

<u>THINK ABOUT</u> IT: To 'grow weary' means to get tired to the point of wanting to quit. There are times when we get physically tired, and there are times when we get spiritually and mentally tired. Satan wants nothing more than for Christians to give up serving the Lord. We grow weary when we wear ourselves out physically without relying on the power of the Spirit of God. We can also grow weary and get discouraged when we don't see the results we think we ought to see. It takes prayer and confidence in the knowledge that God is always at work whether we can see any results or not.

<u>PRAY ABOUT IT</u>: Lord help me not to grow weary in my service to You. Help me to rely on Your Spirit for strength to keep steady in serving.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 23 (Wednesday evening sermon)

READ ABOUT IT: Matt. 6.25: For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

<u>THINK ABOUT</u> IT: To be worried is to be overly concerned to the point it becomes the focus of our lives. Clothes, food, and shelter are necessities in life, but they should never become obsessions, then they become idols. God knows what we need and when we need it. He gives us the ability to provide through jobs or through His provision in His own way. Our part is to recognize God's provision in our lives, be grateful, and focus on serving Him.

PRAY ABOUT IT: Father, help me to be thankful and grateful for how You provide in my life daily.

Wednesday night @ Bethel – *the* family place to be!

6 p.m.: family meal; 6:40 p.m.: TeamKids; 7:00 p.m.: Bible studies:

"Living the Jesus way – the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5-7)", adult co-ed led by Pastor Ben;

"Love and respect" – adult co-ed marriage and relationship class led by Jason and Stacy Mesnard;

"Firm in faith" – women's Bible study led by Jamie Cearlock;

 $1\ Corinthians-men's\ Bible\ study\ led\ by\ Dustin\ Jackson;$

Youth Bible study led by Pastor Dave.

THURSDAY, Jan. 24 (Wednesday night sermon)

READ ABOUT IT: Matt. 6.33: But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

<u>THINK ABOUT IT</u>: 'Seeking first His kingdom' means to be focused on growing in my relationship with Jesus Christ. Growing in my relationship with Jesus Christ puts everything else in focus. God may have gifted you as a teacher or preacher, He may have gifted you with the gifts of administration or service. However, none of the gifts God has given you will matter if you are not first growing in your relationship with Jesus Christ.

PRAY ABOUT IT: Father help me to seek Your kingdom first, to grow in my relationship with You.

FRIDAY, Jan. 25 (Sunday night sermon)

<u>READ ABOUT IT: Mark 10.17</u>: As He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before him, and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

THINK ABOUT IT: A young man who had many possessions approached Jesus with a self-centered question: "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" His question was self-centered because he thought eternal life was something that could be earned through some type of work. What he did not understand was that eternal life is a gift from God, the perfect gift bought and paid for through the broken body and shed blood of Jesus on the cross of Calvary.

<u>PRAY ABOUT IT</u>: Father thank you that Your salvation is not something that has to be earned but is Your perfect gift because of Jesus.

SATURDAY, Jan. 26 (Sunday night sermon)

<u>READ ABOUT IT: Mark 10.23</u>: And Jesus, looking around, said to His disciples, "How hard it will be for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God!"

<u>THINK ABOUT IT</u>: Jesus never said it was impossible for the wealthy to enter the kingdom of God, just hard. Why would it be hard? Because wealth can cause us to depend on wealth instead of God. Wealth and the possessions can become idols if we are not careful. Wealth and possessions are temporary; the salvation of God is eternal. The salvation of God is the most precious of all gifts, available to all who place their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

<u>PRAY ABOUT IT</u>: Lord help me to remember that Your salvation is the greatest of all gifts.

SUNDAY, Jan. 27

READ ABOUT IT: Gen. 3.21: The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.

THINK ABOUT IT: After Adam and Eve sinned in disobeying God, they tried to hide their sin by making coverings of fig leaves. Regardless of what we try to do, we cannot hide nor can we take away the sin in our lives. God provided garments of skin to clothe Adam and Eve; blood had to be shed to cover their sin. What a perfect picture that points us to the ultimate sacrifice for sin, Jesus Christ! This is why we celebrate the Lord's Supper, the perfect sacrifice for all sin for all time in Jesus Christ.

<u>PRAY ABOUT IT</u>: Lord, help me to remember the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross for my sin as I observe the Lord's Supper.

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