

Faith Christian Fellowship
March 30, 2014
Walk in Truth 3
Gentile in My Mind?

Text: 3 Jn 1:4 / Ephesians 4:17-21

There is a constant tension in our lives between what we know and how we live. We tend to emphasize one or the other all the time. The real question, however, is never what we know, but Who we know. If we know Him, then it will impact how we live.

Ephesians lets us know that before we can walk, we first have to sit. Once we are **seated**, then we can walk. Last time we looked at walking **worthy of our calling**. Today, we want to look at how not to walk:

- ❖ Don't think like a Gentile.
 - The vanity of your mind – a dark and scary place without God
 - What does a Gentile mind look like? Eph 4:18-20
 - You walk like you think!!!!
 - KJV Vanity: whose thoughts are worthless; set on worthless things; minds are turned to that which has no profit; empty-headed, mindless; futility of their mind NKJ; hopelessly confused(NLT)
 - In order to avoid walking alienated from the life of God (which is in you because you are seated), there are some adjustments in your thinking that will be necessary. You need a new view. Eph 4:23 NLT Instead, **let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes**.
- ❖ A new view of yourself. Ephesians 4:22-24.
 - A new creation 2 Cor 5:17
 - Righteous – not guilty. See V. 21 (Rom 5:19)
 - Holy – I am the good china. Its fundamental idea is separation, consecration, devotion to the service of Deity, sharing in God's purity and abstaining from earth's defilement.
 - Gal 6:16 And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God
- ❖ A new view of others. Ephesians 4:25-27
 - People are not pawns in your scheme to be manipulated - Pro 21:6 / 2Pe 2:3 NLT .

- Not ours to impress – God pleasers Eph 6:6-7
- We are connected. Rom 12:5 Rom 12:4-5 NLT ...we all belong to each other.
- Don't lie to yourself James 1:22
- Anger happens.
 - People are people. Deal with it quickly and without sin. Your hurt feelings are not a license to act hurtfully. Jas 1:20
 - Failure to do so gives a foothold to the devil
- ❖ A new view of stuff / wealth. Ephesians 4:28
 - God is my provider, not me. I don't not have to scheme and scuffle to get my needs met. Php 4:11
 - Work is good, inherently valuable, and the primary method of God's provision. 2Th 3:10 no work, no eat / 1Th 4:11 working with your hands
 - The purpose of work is to get seed to give. 2Co 9:10 God who gives seed to the farmer that becomes bread for your meals
- ❖ A new view of words. Ephesians 4:29-32
 - Corrupt: *saprós*; to rot. Bad, rotten, putrid. The opposite of good, edifying, and gracious.
 - What grieves the Holy Spirit? Eph 4:31 AMP
 - Your words have power
 - They determine what you receive:
 - Mk 11:23 You get what you believe because you say it
 - Jas 3:6 impacts your body and the whole world
 - Your life will never exceed your mouth: Pro 18:20
 - They can create or destroy.
 - Pro 18:21 MSG Words kill, words give life;
 - Psa 64:3 MSG Using their tongues as weapons, flinging poison words, poison-tipped arrow-words.
 - Pro 16:23-24 Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.

You cannot perform in a manner inconsistent with the way you see yourself.

Zig Ziglar