

Faith Christian Fellowship
May 4, 2014
Walk in Truth 7
Walking Wise 1

Text: 3 Jn 1:4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth. / Eph 5:15-17 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, (16) redeeming the time, because the days are evil. (17) Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Ephesians lets us know that before we can walk, we first have to sit. Once we are **seated**, then we can walk. We looked at walking **worthy of our calling**, and getting **free from a Gentile mind. We learned to imitate God and walk in love.** We began to talk about **Walking in the Light: The light of the Word, the light of love, and the light of the Spirit, conscience and the inward witness.** Our last stage of walking is to walk in wisdom. Today, wisdom in our personal relationships.

First things first. Eph 5:15 See then that you **walk** circumspectly (accurate, diligent, exact), not as fools but as **wise**,

- ❖ Walk close to the Lord. Eph 5:18-20
 - Don't do things that dull your sensitivity. Pro 31:1-9.
 - Be continually filled with the Spirit
 - Worship with others
 - Worship in your own heart
 - Maintain gratitude
- ❖ In your relations with the significant people in your life, strive for an attitude of submissiveness. This reflects a heart that reveres the Lord: *hupotasso* arrange in an orderly manner under another- arrange yourself to suit others first
 - Eph 5:21 NLT And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.
 - Ladies: Eph 5:22-24
 - Notice, submission is willingly given.
 - Men and women are equal, but different (1 Peter 3:7)
 - Gentlemen: Eph 5:25-31
 - Love means putting someone else first
 - I can't correct my wife until I have given my life
 - I am obligated to nourish and cherish

- For my body, I make sure it is fed, clothed, and avoids pain as much as possible
- Whatever I do impacts my wife, and the way I treat her impacts me
- Mom, Dad, and Junior. Eph 6:1-4
 - Kids: Honor does not mean I agree with them all the time, but I do treat them with deference and respect.
 - Parents: Treat you kids with dignity, discipline, and instruction.
- Workers and bosses; Eph 6:5-9 .
 - This is not an endorsement of slavery. It speaks to the system of the day and recognizes the inherent value of both slave and master.
 - When I take a job, I am obligated to put the boss's needs before my own. I work because of Jesus.
 - When I hire someone they are my equal before God. Therefore they are to be treated with respect and value.
- ❖ Wisdom is about how to be a blessing to others.
 - It strikes me that His Word to children is the only one with a self-centered motive. All the others are about someone else knowing the Lord and being blessed. (Maybe a commentary on maturity?)
 - Notice Eph 5:32-33 This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. (33) So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.
 - The purpose of our wisdom: to reflect the love of Christ for the Church to a broken world
 - The world is watching: What do they see?
 - The ingredients for reflecting Jesus wherever you are: **Love & Respect.**

Wisdom is always an overmatch for strength.

Phil Jackson