

“WHAT’S INVOLVED IN WALKING WITH THE LORD”
(Gen. 5:24)

WALKING WITH THE LORD...

I. INVOLVES A MATTER OF HAVING DAILY DEVOTIONS.

- A. A quiet time with God is absolutely vital to us for both our spiritual health and growth (Matt. 4:4; I. Pet. 2:2; Heb. 5:14). A person can be doctrinally correct and yet be spiritually malnourished. The thing that sustains us spiritually and strengthens us is the living Word of God as it speaks to our hearts day by day. This practice then becomes a barometer of our spirituality and effectiveness for God.
- B. A quiet time with God is vital to us for our spiritual cleansing (Psa. 119:9; Jn. 15:3; 17:17). We have been initially cleansed once for all by the precious blood of Christ as typified in the washing of the O.T. priests but we still need a day-by-day cleansing from the laver of God’s Word because of the defilements of sin in our lives.
- C. A quiet time with God is also vital to us for our spiritual counseling (Psa. 73:24; II Tim. 3:16). The valuable principles which direct and determine the course of a holy and righteous life are found and formulated as we let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly (Col. 3:16).
- D. A quiet time with God is vital to us because of the spiritual conflict we’re engaged in (Eph. 6:12-17; I Pet. 5:8). The Word of God is the weapon the Lord Jesus used to combat Satan (Matt. 4:4,7,10). Notice unless a person is successful in maintaining the practice of a quiet time with God there is little hope that he will survive spiritually against the onslaughts of Satan and live a victorious Christian life. Failure in this area is the most contributing factor to the downfall of any saint of God. Those who fall into sin have almost always gotten away from a regular practice of meeting with God.
- E. A quiet time with God is desirable above all other reasons because the Lord delights in our fellowship with Him through the Word of God and prayer (Jn. 4:23; Jer. 33:3).
- F. A quiet time with God is needful for us to avoid the sins of presumption in our lives and walking in the strength of the flesh rather than the power of the Spirit (Jer. 17:5; Prov. 3:5,6; Gal. 5:16). To start a day without God is to say “today I don’t need God”. It is also to go out unprepared spiritually with no direction and strength for the day’s problems, temptations, and testings (Isa. 40:29-31). No one can rightly say he is walking with the Lord when he is not spending time with the Lord. Someone has said, when a man is too busy for God, he is then just plain too busy.”

II. INVOLVES A MATTER OF ATTENDING CHURCH SERVICES FAITHFULLY

- A. Being faithful in services is what the Lord requires of His people (I Cor. 4:2; Heb. 10:25).

Notice this was the practice of believers from the time that the church began (Luke 24:49-53; Acts 1:4; 2:1; 2:46,47; 5:42).

- B. Being faithful in services is how we grow spiritually and find what the Lord would have us to do (I Pet. 2:2; Rom. 10:17; Eph. 5:17).

Notice it was Jesus' custom to attend the house of worship (Lk. 4:16).

- C. Being faithful in services sets a good example before others and demonstrates the reality of our faith (Matt. 5:16; Jas. 2:17-20; I Tim. 4:12). No one can rightly say he is walking with the Lord when he is not faithful in church services. Those not attending faithfully are out of step with the Lord and not taking part in God's work as they should.

III. INVOLVES A MATTER OF SHARING EVERYTHING IN OUR LIVES WITH THE LORD

- A. This means calling upon the Lord in times of need (Heb. 4:16).

This is what Moses did when there was no water for the Israelites (Ex. 17:3-7). It's what the Centurion did when his servant was dying (Luke 7).

- B. This means confessing our sins when we've done wrong (I Jn. 1:9).

This is what David did after he had committed adultery with Bathsheba (II Sam. 11; Psa. 51).

- C. This means casting our burdens upon Him when we're troubled (I Pet. 5:7).

This is what Nehemiah did when he was troubled by those opposing God's work (Neh. 4:4-9). And it's what Hezekiah did when the Assyrian forces threatened God's people (II Kings 19).

- D. This means coming to Him with the desires of our hearts (Psa. 37:4).

Hannah came to the Lord desiring a son (I Sam. 1:1-18). Solomon desired wisdom (I Kings 3).

No one can rightly say he is walking with the Lord when he is not sharing things with the Lord. To do things on your own is to walk apart from the Lord.

IV. INVOLVES A MATTER OF APPROPRIATING GOD'S WORD IN OUR LIVES

- A. This may mean obeying God's Word and putting it into practice (James 1:22).

It's not enough to know God's Word we need to obey it. This is what James is illustrating in James 1:22-25. Soul-saving faith is evidenced through an obedient life to the Lord.

B. This may mean using God's Word when we're tempted to do wrong (Eph. 6:17).

The Lord Jesus demonstrated how we are to use God's Word against the devil in Matt. 4:1-11.

C. This may mean claiming God's promises in times of trial (Heb. 13:5).

Abraham claimed God's promises believing that He would do what He said (Gen. 15:1-6; Heb. 11:8-19).

No one can rightly say he is walking with the Lord when he is not walking in obedience to God's Word. Those who believe otherwise are deceiving themselves.

V. INVOLVES A MATTER OF TAKING A STAND FOR THE LORD

A. This may mean refusal in some cases (I Tim. 5:22).

Daniel and the three Hebrew children refused to dishonor God in taking part with others (Dan. 1:3). Moses also refused some things in order to walk with God (Heb. 11:24-27).

B. This may mean rebuke in some cases (II Tim. 4:2).

This is what Paul exhorted the Ephesian believers to do concerning evil workers (Eph. 5:11).

C. This may mean separation in some cases (Rom. 16:17; Psa. 1).

Separation from sinning individuals is what Paul exhorted the Corinthian believers to do (I Cor. 5:9-13).

No one can rightly say he is walking with the Lord when he is involved with others who are doing wrong.