

The Christian Walk

Walk in Truth

Over the past several weeks, we have taken a look at the elements of our Christian walk:

- Walk in the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-26)
- Walk in Love (Ephesians 5:1-2)
- Walk in the Light (Ephesians 5:8-14)
- Walk in Wisdom (Ephesians 5:15-21)
- Walk in Unity (Ephesians 4:1-6)
- Walk in Truth (3 John 1:3-4)

The word “walk” appears in translations and versions like the New King James Version, but other versions and translations do not use the word “walk”, but use “live” or “conduct yourself” instead. Let’s recap and paraphrase each element:

- Let your lives be controlled by the Holy Spirit (crucifying the flesh and its desires) and demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit.
- Live a life that is full of [*agape*] love for others.
- Be a light to the world, exposing sin, and living in such a way that your actions and good deeds glorify God and draw others to Him.
- Live wisely and make sound, intelligent decisions using Biblical principles as your guide, not the standards the world/culture uses.
- Strive for unity [strength, health, wholeness] in the church in belief (doctrine), service (ministries) and compassion (caring for one another as members of the same body).
- Live as though you honestly and confidently believe the truth of God’s Word and its authority and direction for your life.

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3 John 1:3-4: *“It gave me great joy when some believers came and testified about your faithfulness to **the truth**, telling how you **continue to walk in it**.⁴ I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are **walking in the truth**.” (NIV)*

So, what does it mean to **walk in the truth**?

1. Believe that **God’s Word is true** and is the only written authority upon which to base your life and faith.

*John 17:17 – “Sanctify them [purify, consecrate, separate them for Yourself, make them holy] by the **Truth**; Your Word is **Truth**.” (AB)*

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2 Timothy 3:16-17- *“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is **true** and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.” (NLT)* 2. Believe that everything spoken by **Jesus Christ was/is Truth** (who was the actual Word of God in flesh), and that He is the only means of salvation and the only way to God. (John 14:6, John 1:14)

John 14:6 – *“Jesus told him, ‘I am the way, **the truth**, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.’” (NLT)*

John 1:14 – *“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and **truth**.” (NIV)*

John 18:37-38 – Pilate asks Jesus, “What is truth?” [Quid est veritas?]

3. Understand that the **Holy Spirit is present in the believer’s life** to give him/her the confidence of the truth of God’s word, help him/her understand it and apply it to his/her life .

John 16:13 – *“But when He, the **Spirit of truth**, comes, He will guide you to all the **truth**. He will not speak on his own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come.” (NIV)*

John 14:15-17 – *“If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate (Helper) to help you and be with you forever - the **Spirit of truth**. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you.” (NIV)*

4. Realize that **Satan is the exact opposite of truth** and strives to deceive the world (and believers) with his lies.

John 8:44-45 – *“Jesus said to them [Pharisees], “You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is **no truth in him**. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. Yet because **I tell the truth**, you do not believe me!” (NIV)*

5. Be totally convinced that there **is** such a thing as **absolute Truth** (as defined by God) and that **pluralism** (more than one truth) and **relativity** (dependent on circumstances or situations) are Satan initiated, humanistic concepts that are dangerous and wrong.

Romans 2:6-10 - ⁶ God will repay each person according to what they have done. ⁷ To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. ⁸ But for those who are self-seeking and **who reject the truth** and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. ⁹ There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; ¹⁰ but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.