

Step by Step

Ephesians 4:1-4, 14-15

Webster defines walk as: to proceed by steps at a pace slower than a run." Walking is simply taking one step, then another, then another... In her biography of Marie Antoinette, Carolly Erickson tells about the queen's attempts to disguise herself and attend parties, dances, and balls incognito, but her walk gave her away. "When she walked, she strode like a man. Her swift, purposeful gait was her trademark. It was said that she could never successfully disguise her identity at masked balls, for no matter how she dressed, she still walked like an Empress."

As you go about day to day amongst people of all ages, be sure of this: You will only be as affective as is your own personal walk with Christ! 4 Principles of Walking in Christ:

1. Walk _____ – vs. 1

We who carry the name of Christ and call ourselves Christians must live up to the name! Are you living worthy of the vocation that God has called you to? (vss. 8, 11-12)

There is a difference in the essential worth of something and an appraisal of what that essential value is. What is your value of your salvation? The value of your salvation is going to determine how you live. You see, if it has not affected your lifestyle, if it has not affected the way you talk to people and about people, if it has not affected the way you treat others, then friend, you have got a low appraisal value of something that is worth far beyond what you have even realized yet. Therefore, your life is not measuring up to any standard that God requires. Walk in a manner worthy.

2. Walk _____ – 4:2-3, 14-15; 5:1-2, Philippians 2:6-8

I must be devoted to pursue love in each step that we take. Paul tells us to walk in love, and I want us to focus on the fact that Christ's love was demonstrated in His devotedness to the call of God on His life. No matter what it was, where it was, and the result. Paul says to "walk in love." Paul then goes on to share how Christ did that: "hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour."

3. Walk _____ – 5:8, Matthew 5:14-16

The best sermons are lived not preached.

4. Walk _____ – 5:15, I Peter 5:8

Every day we encounter opportunities that can make us stronger in our faith and we encounter opportunities that can make us stumble and become less than what God wants us to be.

So, as you prepare to walk into the world, remember there are people who:

- > are _____ and in need of the Light
- > struggling and need _____
- > are saved and need to see Christ _____
- > need _____ to cheer them on in their walk

Don't forget that your walk is crucial not only to those that you will see regular basis, but will have a huge factor in your overall ministry to each and every person that you come in contact with, not only today, but also in the rest of your life.

