



Study Guide

Lesson 6

“Learning To Walk”

Along with jogging, walking has become a popular exercise and outdoor sport. I often see individuals and entire families enjoying a walk in the park or in the forest preserves. When driving on the highway, I sometimes wave to “walking parties” heading for some distant rendezvous.

The Christian life can be compared to a walk. In fact, this is one of Paul’s favorite pictures: Walk in a manner worthy of your calling” (Eph. 4:1); “you must no longer walk as the gentiles do” (Eph. 4:17); “walk in love” (Eph. 5:2); “walk as children of light” (Eph. 5:8).

The Christian life begins with a step of faith. But that step leads to a walk of faith, “For we walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Cor. 5:7). Walking suggests progress, and we must make progress in the Christian life (Phil. 3:13–16; Heb. 6:1). Walking also demands strength, and God has promised, “As your days, so shall your strength be” (Deut. 33:25).

But we must be sure to “walk in the light” for the enemy has put traps and detours to catch us (1 John 1:5–7). Of course, at the end of life’s walk, we will step into the very presence of the Lord. “And Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him” (Gen. 5:24).

Paul described a threefold walk for the Christian to follow.

Walk In Holiness 4:1-8

Four reasons to live a life of holiness and to utilize Paul’s _____ and _____ principle:

1. Walk to _____ (4:1)
2. Walk to _____ (4:2-3)
3. Walk to _____ (4:4-5)
4. Walk to _____ (4:6-8)

Walk In Love 4:9-10

1. Paul prayed in 3:11-13 that the Thessalonians would _____ and _____ in love for one another. His _____ and _____ principle is mentioned again. (4:10)
2. There are four basic words in Greek for love: (1) _____-physical love, (2) _____-family love, (3) _____-deep affectionate love, (4) _____-unconditional love.
3. Because a fish’s nature is to swim, it swims. Because a bird’s nature is to fly, it flies. Because God nature is to love, we _____. (4:9).

Walk As An Example 4:11-12

1. Notice that Paul wants the Thessalonians to be an example to the _____ and not be _____ on anybody. (4:12)
2. Paul set the example for the church in Thessalonica to work with your hands by working _____ and _____ (2:9). Also read 2 Thessalonians 3:6-12.
3. As an example, do these three things: (1) _____, (2) _____, (3) _____. (4:11)