

“LIVING POWERFULLY: Walking It Out”

CORE VALUE #6

Ephesians: a manual for transforming the world-

SIT- established in our relationship with Jesus (ch. 1-3)

WALK- our relationships with others (ch. 4-5)

STAND- our posture toward the enemy (ch. 6)

Review: Being “seated with Christ” results in...

- **“Established”** (3:17)- *firm foundation; stabilized*
- **“Comprehend/grasp”**- *seize eagerly & fully possess (make our own)*
- *“My deepest awareness of myself is that I am deeply loved by Jesus Christ and I have done nothing to earn it or deserve it.”* –**Brennan Manning**

PROP- What you are seated in—you walk out. (*i.e., we express what we possess*)

“WALK”- appears 8 times in chapters 4 & 5.

(Def.)- **“to order your behavior (especially in the area of relationships)”**

[NOTE: Eph. 1:15- “I heard about **your faith** in the Lord Jesus and **your love** for all the saints.”]

1. WALK WORTHY (4:1)

“WORTHY”- **“Equal to or appropriate to; becoming or fitting”**

- **Reality; not fantasy or hype**
- **Born out of revelation and reception (i.e., Revelation 4:11)**

“The greatest single cause of atheism in the world today is Christians: who **acknowledge Jesus with their lips**, walk out the door, and **deny Him by their lifestyle**. That is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable.”

–**Brennan Manning**

NOTE: Jesus places some pretty significant demands on us:

-To forgive as we have been forgiven

-To love our enemies

-To be holy as He is holy

-To do greater works than He has done

-To go into the entire world and make disciples of nations!

He does this because He is **confident** that all He has poured into us is **more than enough** for us to **fully accomplish all** of His purposes!

2. WALK IN LOVE (5:2)

LOVE is choosing to prefer another. (Isaiah 41; John 15:16- “Chosen”)

- Walking in love is the opposite of walking in fear.
 - Powerless people live in fear—trying to control others they forfeit connections with people
 - Powerful people live in love—choosing to release others to make their own choices
- The Cross is THE most powerful demonstration of love
 - In justice He dealt with sin (did not treat it lightly)
 - In mercy He laid down His life for His friends
 - In love He gave us the choice to receive Him or reject Him
- Love is all-terrain; His love empowers us to love at all times
 - While we were “yet sinners” He died for us (Romans 5:8)
 - While we were His “enemies” He loved us (Romans 5:10)
 - Treats His enemies endearingly. Names repeated 2x are a sign of endearment (“Martha; Saul; Jerusalem”)
- Loving others is a BIG issue to God (2nd greatest commandment is “like the first”; 1 John 4:20- “...love God whom we don’t see”)
 - i.e., Bob Jones- “Have you learned to love?”

Being “seated with Jesus in the heavenly realms” transforms how you walk. And those who know you best feel it most profoundly (Ps. 101:2; Eph. 5)!

3. WALK AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT (5:8-10)

We “were darkness”—oblivious to heavenly things

NOW we are “light in the Lord”-

- Pure, clear, nothing hidden
- Nothing between—*love what He loves, want nothing to grieve Him or cause us to turn our hearts from Him*
- Brilliant, fully alive, out-shining, fully present in every moment—*“making the most of every opportunity”!!!*
- Stronger than darkness!!!

RESPONSE:

Ephesians 5:18- “Be filled (and continually filled) with Holy Spirit”

Acts 1:8- “My witnesses”—*seeing what I say & boldly saying it!!!*

- *Seeing life through His eyes*
- *Living life fully supplied*