

Who remembers a song from the 80's titled Walk Like an Egyptian?

When you hear it is that **what you think of**? Point to screen (HYBRID)

There are stereotypes of everything, but not always reality.

Egyptians don't walk like that do they?

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If there was a song title "Walk Like a Christian"

my question this morning is

in light of what the Word of God says how are we doing?...

Would your life & Mine be singing it well?

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**Because if we claim to be Christians,
we ought to desire to Walk the Way God has called us to.**

And so today I want us to sort of take a Spiritual Inventory!

**And the only way to take an
appropriate inventory is go to the Word!**

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so I want to ask you to turn to...

Eph 4:1-6

Walking Like A Christian

While reading the Book of Ephesians, 1 of the theme's throughout the Book that sticks out **is about the way we walk.**

7 times in Ephesians, between Ch. 2-5 Paul uses the word "walk" to talk about the way we live.

How we use to walk (2:1-dead in our sins, following the world),
vs. how we are to **now walk** (Ch.5- imitators of God & Children of Light)

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And if there is anything we ought to recognize as believers,
is that **the Lord** is **Worthy** of our Best Walk!

*In **Col 1:10** Paul challenges the Colossians that they... might walk worthy of the Lord ...*

*To the **Thessalonians in 1Th 2:12** he writes.. that you should walk worthy of God, who has called you to His kingdom and glory.*

(how we walk is a MAIN EMPHASIS in Paul's letters)

We are to be a people who have **submitted** & **surrendered** to Jesus, we ought to be like Paul & feel as if we are **His slaves** & **He is our Master.**

Not a Master who abuses us, but loves us & has good in mind for us.

That's what the "**therefore**" in v.1 is tied to the fact of all the abundant things Christ has done for us he deserves our best.

I think Paul paints a good picture in **Romans 12:1** – I beseech (appeal) you therefor brethren by the mercies of God that you present your bodies a living sacrifice to God, holy, and acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

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So when Paul says we should walk worthy...

What does Worthy exactly look like? What are the Specifics?

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Well Paul paints a little bit of the picture for us here in these passages, and he begins with things pertaining to our attitude...

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1st – Walk of Humility & Gentleness

Everyday when I pray there are 4 things I pray for specifically.
(Grow in humility, grow in wisdom, for a purity in all things, more patience)

The Bible teaches us **God hates** haughtiness & selfish pride.

God hates pride because it is self worship, self adoration. (STEAL his PRAISE)

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Christianity is about being OTHER FOCUSED, not self absorbed!

Christ set that example – he did come here to be served, but to serve others. He didn't die for Himself, but us.

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That's why HE calls us to die to self

A church full of self absorbed people will **never survive** or be blessed by God!

Phi 2:3 *Let nothing be done* through strife or vainglory, but in lowliness of mind let each **esteem** others better than themselves.

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When you hear of churches fighting & splitting,
99% probably- if this were happening it would not take place.

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Gentleness I think shows the way humility responds.

When we are gentle with others that are mad at us, disagree with us,
Responding with Gentleness communicate we truly care.

Anytime there is confrontation or disagreement, it doesn't take much for the conversation to go the wrong way real quick.

Each of us have the ability, to **extinguish** those situations by the way we respond or react.

Humility keeps selfish agendas in check, & by being gentle with others we show Christ-likeness in our walk .

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So we must walk in HUMILITY & GENTLENESS in love

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2ND – Our Walk ought to Be One of PATIENCE & Longsufferng.

If we are genuine with ourselves & think about how patient God with is with us, it will help us be a lot more patient with others.

**When a someone offends us; or make; us mad,
think about what it opens; the door for if we aren't patient & long;uffering?**

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Now think about what it says when we show longsuffering?

What it shows is that we are wanting to bear with 1 another because we truly love each other despite our imperfections. (as v. 2 says)

ALL HAVE SOUR NOTES AT TIMES

BUT WE MUST REMEMBER the Big Pix (Not abot us)

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**Back in 3:17 – this is all built on the premise that we are
Rooted & grounded in the Love of Christ.**

Paul **commends** the Ephesians in 2:1 – for the reputation they had of loving one another.

That's the reputation we want!

**The most important thing is not about us **winning an argument,
Getting our way, or fixing everyone else.****

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We realize **as v.3 points out** that being Unified in the Spirit
is very important.

Phi 1:27 Only let your conduct be as becomes the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you, or else am absent, I may hear of your *affairs*, that you stand fast in one spirit, striving together with one mind for the faith of the gospel,

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When God's; People are living dead to self, great things; happen.

WE MUST ENDEAVOR TO KEEP PEACE
apart from compromising
THE ESSENTIALS of the FAITH.

Paul says to the Corinthians in 1Co 1:10 ...I exhort you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, *that* you all speak the same thing and that there be no divisions among you; ...

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Just as there is 1God, 1Father, 1Spirit, 1 Lord, 1 Baptism
1 Faith....We are 1 Body in Christ

(About Unity where there is diversity)

Although there are many parts to the body...

Jim Ailor – has in place (he may be like the hand)

Billy Jo – the beard

When the whole body is healthy things go better.

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I love the word Paul uses in v.3 to describe the attitude we should have about being humble & patient.

WE OUGHT TO BE **EAGER!** *Like Friday at 2pm (work & school bell)

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Jesus says in Mark 3:24... And if a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot **stand**.

When it comes to Division – the only time I can think of where division is mentioned as a good thing...

is when God calls us to be set apart and different from the World.

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And lastly, although it isn't dealt with in this passage, **later in Ch.4 & 5** of Ephesians Paul stresses the importance of...

3rd- Having a Walk of Purity

A walk of godly & holy behavior and thinking.

In Eph. 1:4 tells us "God chose us to be holy"

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(Look at 5:1-18)

1) **How is your talk? Clean? free of gossip, Encouraging? (James 3)**

2) **How about the way you carry yourself?**

What about the way you dress?

When it comes to clothes & fashion cute should never trump our commitment to reflecting Christ!

1 Timothy 2:9-10 Paul specifically addresses women – "Likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works.

Young guys several years ago – sagging britches with underwear.

Ladies – skimpy bathing suits, mini skirts & low cut tops certainly aren't in the modest category. **(Not screaming sold out for Jesus)**

The way we dress says a lot about us & our walk with Christ at the moment!

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My LIFE verse is 1 Cor 10:31 (Sums it up)

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU PUT BEFORE YOUR EYES & LISTEN TO, BECAUSE IT WILL AFFECT YOUR WALK!

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Although I am new here, this is my church home, you are my spiritual family & what I want more than anything is that our church **Is found WALKING Worthy!**

It is a serious calling & a great calling to be a follower of Christ!

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1*How we live is a witness to the LOST.

2*Example to newer believers. (we ought to desire to be a good example)

3*And a reflection of our level of gratefulness to God.

Let's be committed to being a good WITNESS & EXAMPLE to others.

Might we take Paul's charge in 5:15 seriously "and look carefully at how we walk"

Inventory Day – level of giving, serving, purity, attitude, everything

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And may the lyrics & the notes our life reflects sing

"Walk Like a Christian!"