

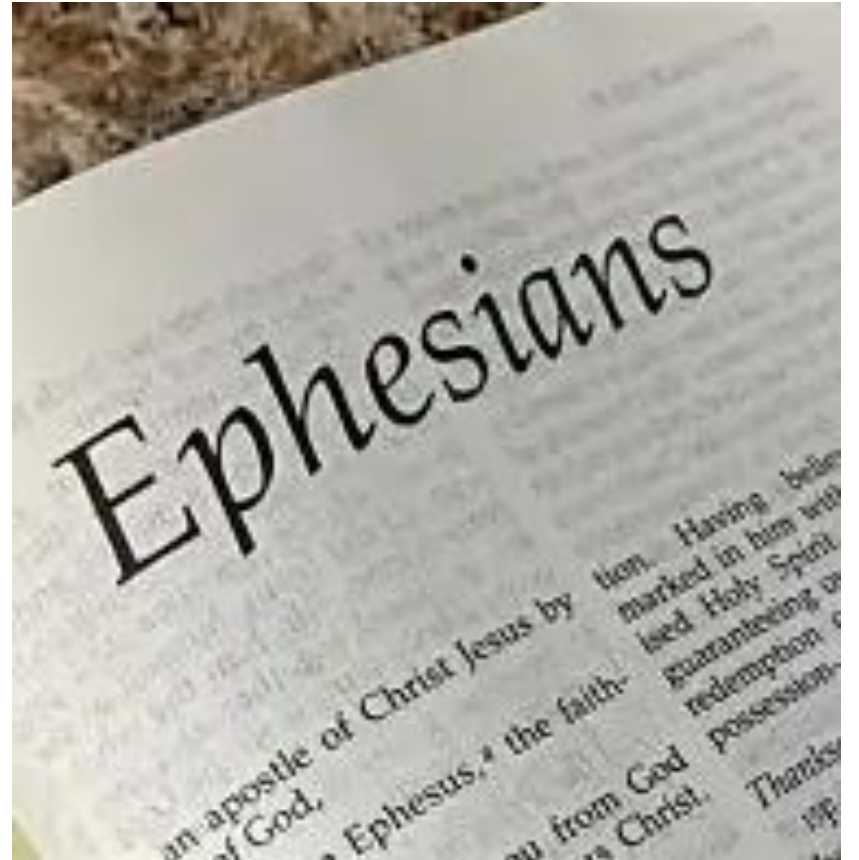
A silhouette of a person walking on a pier or walkway by the water. The person is walking from left to right. In the background, there is a city skyline across the water under a bright, hazy sky. The text "The WORD Series" is overlaid in the center of the image.

The WORD Series

Part 8 – WALKING...

Introduction...

- The first three chapters essentially deal with our identity first. In other words they deal with the theology of what God has done for and in us
- The next three chapters now deal with our appropriate response to what has been done for us.
- First, we sat down on the throne of Salvation and Redemption before arising to walk in the majesty of victory over sin and death.
- Chapter Four is a majestic passage showing us the clear blueprint of how a True Believer lives out and works out their New Reality in Christ.



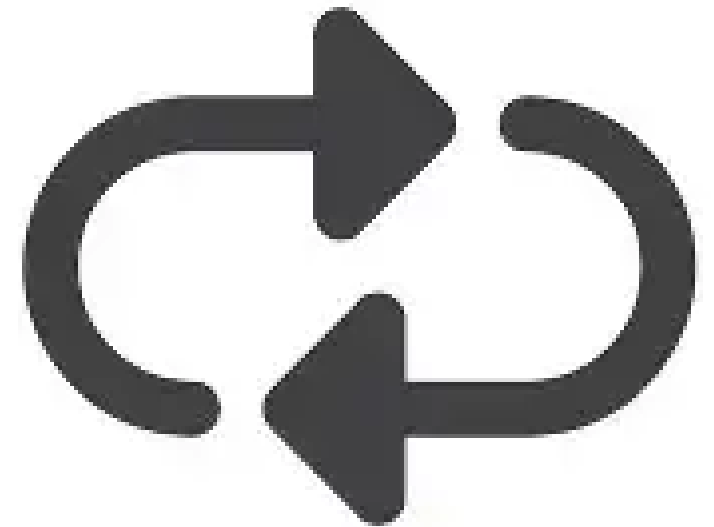
Bible Reading...

- *So I, the prisoner for the Lord, appeal to you to live a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called*
- *[that is, to live a life that exhibits godly character, moral courage, personal integrity, and mature behavior--a life that expresses gratitude to God for your salvation],*
- *2 with all humility [forsaking self-righteousness], and gentleness [maintaining self-control], with patience, bearing with one another in [unselfish] love.*
- *3 Make every effort to keep the oneness of the Spirit in the bond of peace [each individual working together to make the whole successful]. Ephesians 4:1-3 AMP*

- *I, therefore, the prisoner^[a] of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,*
- *2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,*
- *3 endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Ephesians 4:1-3 NKJV*

Repeat...

- Again, Paul starts this chapter with stating that he is Christ's prisoner...
- He is reminding himself and then about his sacrifice and obedience
- This is a principle that helps us and our mental state when we repeat things to ourselves and others
- Parents, Pastors and teachers should not refrain from repeating the same thing over and over again .
- The art and act of teaching demands that we repeat information before our recipients get it!



Beseech...

- Remember this is scripture written by the Holy Spirit. So it implies or shows that this is how the Holy Spirit appeals to us, our will and conscience.
- God will never force us to do what we don't want to do but that comes with a serious small print:
- *Romans 2:16 (AMP) on that day when, as my gospel proclaims, God will judge the secrets [all the hidden thoughts and concealed sins] of men through Christ Jesus.*
- In other words- even though we can get away with ignoring God's appeals now, there is coming a day when all the deep hidden requests by God to our hearts will be revealed and boy! What a day that will be!!



Beseech...

- That time when God appealed to you to go and see your Mum and forgive her for all your childhood traumas
- That time when God appealed to you to give missionaries the funds, they needed to help those orphans
- That time when God appealed to you to come clean with your spouse
- That time when the Holy Spirit was nudging you to give all those profits and money back
- That time when the Holy Spirit was pleading with you to trust him and step out into the Call upon your life



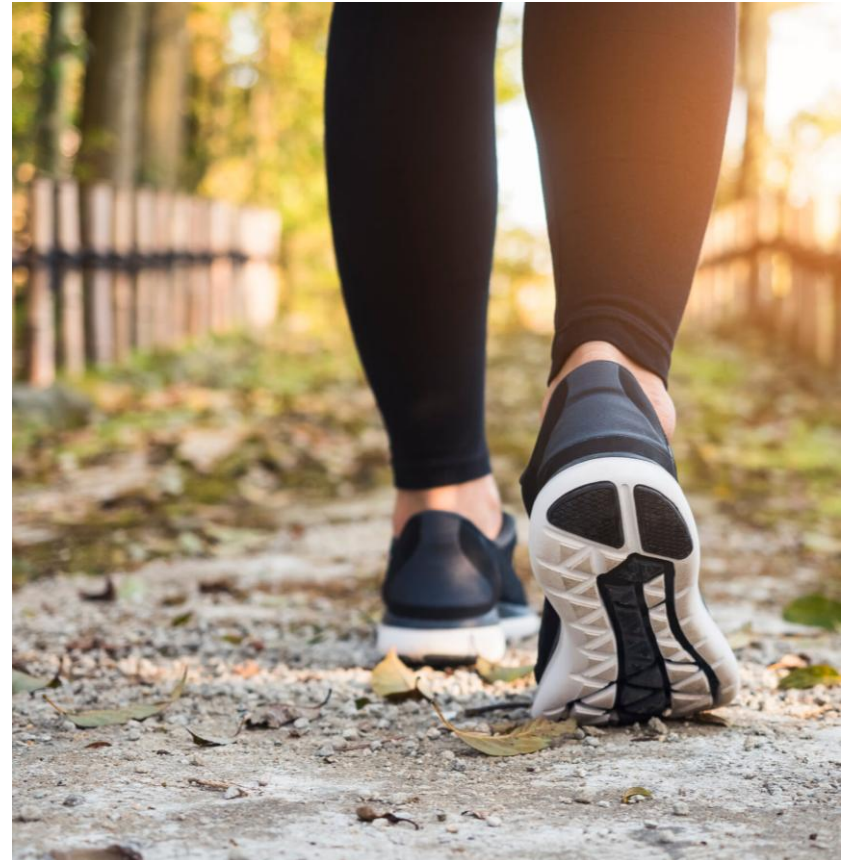
Beseech...

- They are appeals now....
- *Hebrews 3:15 (AMP) while it is said, “TODAY [while there is still opportunity] IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEART, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME [in the rebellion in the desert at Meribah].”*
- A Day will come when Man will be doing the appealing!!



Walk...

- *I, therefore, the prisoner ^[a]of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,*
- Walk Worthy....
- Live a Life Worthy of your Calling
- Walk in the nature and reality of your new life in Christ
- Let your life mirror the true reality of your being.
- The light of Christ in the Believer is supposed to shine through to the world. So that they can see, feel and know God.





Walk...

- Ephesians tells us to SIT in chapter two, WALK in Chapter four and STAND in chapter six.
- The unfolding revelation in the Epistle is that:
- We know who we are first (Sit)
- Then we Act accordingly (Walk)
- Then we can Overcome (Stand)

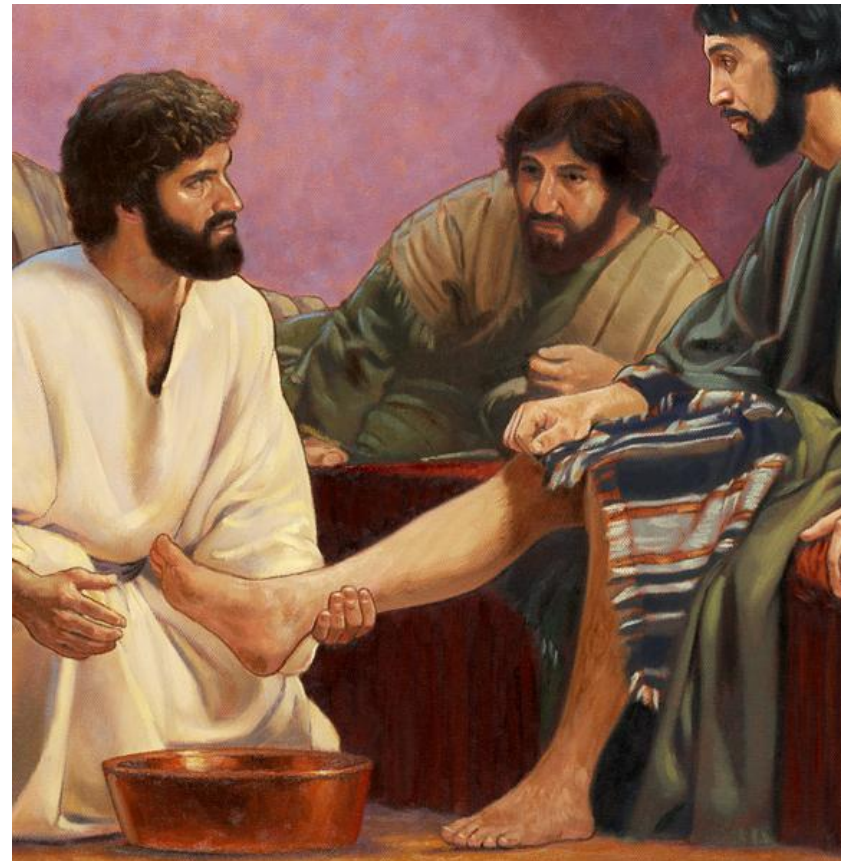
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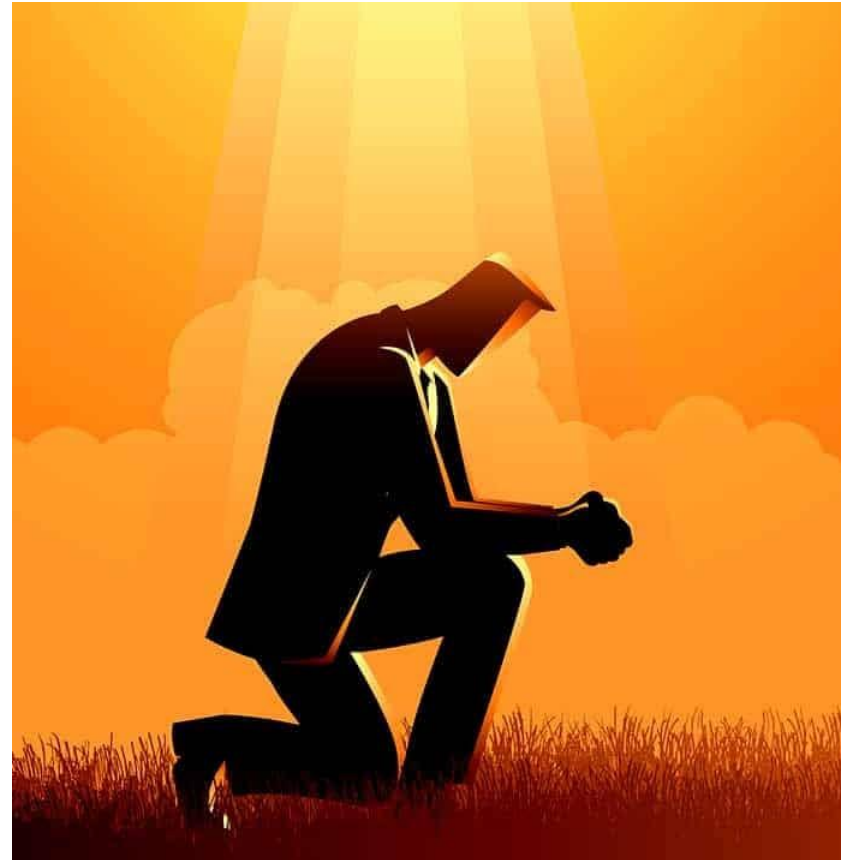
Model...

- **The Character of Christ is our example**
- *Though the LORD [is] on high, Yet He regards the lowly; But the proud He knows from afar. **Psalm 138:6***
- *15 For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name [is] Holy: “I dwell in the high and holy [place,]*
- *With him [who] has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.*
Isaiah 57:15 (NKJV)
- *“Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*
Matthew 11:29



Humble...

- The nature of Jesus is HUMILITY. The mark of those who walk closely with the lord is this true mark of Brokenness
- They may be extroverted or even have the most sanguineous personality, but they will carry this aura.
- Gentleness is controlled power and energy with sensitivity and a touch of kindness.
- Love - has the Grace to be patient with others. It can bear up under extreme stress and provocation
- When we walk with the Lord one of the key attributes that falls from Him unto us is Long-suffering. .



Endeavouring...

- Endeavouring to **keep** the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: This humble, forgiving attitude towards each other naturally fulfils this gift of the **unity of the Spirit**.
- We must *endeavor to* **keep** this unity — we do not create it.
- God never commands us to create unity among believers. He has created it by His Spirit; our duty is to recognize it and **keep** it.
- This is a spiritual unity, not necessarily a structural or denominational unity.
- It is evident in the quick fellowship possible among Christians of different races, nationalities, languages, and economic classes.



Endeavouring...

- Do not rush to divide a relationship that God has fostered.
- Allow yourselves to be defrauded
- See the bigger picture of God's Kingdom first, over and beyond your rights.
- Go after your Brethren when there has been a falling out. Visit, communicate, write, call, reach out.
- Blessed are the Peacemakers!
- Try to keep your family together. If not possible, Keep the relationships, maintain contact – like God does





Reflections...



