

Walk with God 2009

Teleconference – 1/6/09 through 1/27/09



Week 1 – “Is it Possible to Walk with God and why should we want to?”

Before Dwight L. Moody’s ministry began he was told by his friend Henry Varley “it remains to be seen what God will do with a man who gives himself up wholly to God.” Moody answered to himself “I will be that man.” A friend of Moody’s, R.A Torrey said after Moody died that he believed Moody did just that. Moody was not perfect, but he “was a man fully surrendered to God, a man of prayer, a deep and practical student of the bible, a humble man, free from the love of money, consumed with passion for the lost and endowed with the power of Holy Spirit.” Decision Magazine, July 2004

This should make each of us think about our own walk with God and how much closer we could walk with him in 2009. D. L. Moody was an ordinary man who fully committed himself in every way to the Lord Christ. What if we asked this question of ourselves – “what will God do today with me if I give myself wholly over to Him?” We have to answer this for ourselves now lest we be asked the same question later by God and can’t give Him a good answer.

One of the greatest statements God could make of any of us would be that we walked with Him each day of our lives. There two people in the bible that it was said “walked with God” - Noah (Genesis 6:9) and Enoch (Genesis 5:21).

It may seem impossible in today’s evil and wicked environment to walk with God. We feel that there are so many distractions, desires and pulls in this world that to completely dedicate every thought and action to God would be impossible. That would be a poor excuse since Noah lived in the most evil and wicked times of all still was righteous and blameless before God. He made a deliberate choice to build his entire on a walk and relationship with God. Noah walked with God and God used him to save all generations. Because of him, we all live today

It was said of Enoch that he “walked with God then he was no more.” We don’t read much about Enoch’s life or any heroics. As far as we know, He lived a quiet, humble life that was fully dedicated to God. He walked so close with God that he didn’t even die! His motivation to walk with God was not for promotion, for glory, for money or any other selfish ambition – it was for the love he had for His Father and desire to be with Him always.

God’s greatest desire is to “walk closely” with us – day by day and moment by moment. That was the very plan since Adam was first created. The decision, however, is fully up to us. It is easy to say “yes, I want to walk with God” but this commitment requires ALL, not just part, of you. This commitment includes precious things – your time, desires, openness, humility, honesty and love. When you get married you don’t commit part of your life to your spouse. When you walk with God you don’t commit part of your life Him – you commit all of it!



Oswald Chambers once wrote in My Utmost for His Highest that to walk with God “is a question of will, not of debate, nor of reasoning, but a surrender of the will, an absolute and irrevocable surrender on that point.” The battle lies in our concern about ourselves which is the fear of what God may ask us to do and what others may think. Chambers says we tell God “He does not know what our obedience will mean” and what it may cost us or the others around us. The truth is God knows exactly what our obedience means. He runs the universe! He has good plans for you, not plans to harm you, if you will commit all to Him.

When you walk with God you’ll live the greatest adventures of your life. It will challenge you, fulfill you, excite you, delight you and sometimes even scare you. Only when you commit and fully walk with God will you experience all the intensities of true living. Your life will have incredible meaning on this earth and the day you leave it you will hear “well done good and faithful servant.” Here are some tools to help you walk closer with God in 2009:

Questions:

1) How much of my current daily life do I walk and talk with God?

2) Ask God to reveal any sins in my life that make me hide from God instead of walk with Him?

3) What am I willing to give up in life to have a closer walk with God?

Action Steps:

1) Read through Romans 8 and write down 3 or more key truths God reveals to you

2) Talk with someone you respect spiritually. Ask how they stay close to God and to pray for you

Commitment:

Write one or two sentences to tell God why and how you desire to walk with Him this year

Additional Resources: Book – “Purpose Driven Life” – Rick Warren

Walking with God – Tools

***The following tool is designed to help set your mind on God.
Try to read through this, out loud, every morning for one week.
Think of the Words you are committing to your Lord as you say them.
May God bless you in your commitment to Him***

**I am in this world but not of this world.
The things I do this day and every day
are to serve my King and Master
Today I will set my mind on things above
and not on earthly things
The things I see with my eyes,
hear with my ears and sense in this world
will all pass away but my God lives forever.**

**I will not be afraid today or any day.
My God will not give me a spirit of fear
but a spirit of power, love and sound mind.
He has made me his son and today
I will stand strong and courageous for Him
so that I may receive all that He has promised me.**

**I will be quick to listen, slow to speak
And slow to become angry.
Only by listening will I hear my master
and the teachers on this earth
He has put in front of me to learn from.
I am but a student on this earth
and God is my master.
I am not greater than my master,
but after I am fully trained I will become like Him.**

**Because I am an soldier in God's Army,
my battle is not against flesh and blood
but against the rulers of this world
and spiritual forces of evil in heavenly realms.
I will put on God's Holy armor.
I will fight the good fight
And I will take captive every thought
and make it obedient to Christ.**

**This day and all that it holds for me
is in the hands of my master and Father.
I will not fear what this day may hold,
but I will work at it with all my heart.
To my Father,
I will walk upright in order to be with You!**