

GROWING UP IN GOD'S FAMILY

Look . . . I'm Walking!

Ephesians 5:1–8, 15–21



LET'S BEGIN HERE

Few things are more foundational to a productive life than walking. That is not only true in the physical realm but especially so in the spiritual realm. However, the tragedy is apparent: many in God's family (dare we say *most*?) have little or no knowledge of the way to do it. The "Spirit-filled life" is talked about by everyone but consistently practiced by few. Some know the facts but simply choose not to obey. That is disobedience—one kind of problem. More, however, do not know what is involved and therefore cannot pull it off. Rather than being disobedient, they are ignorant . . . uninformed and unaware. Perhaps you fall into that category. Let's dispel the ignorance and remove confusion regarding the manner in which God's children are to walk.



LET'S DIG DEEPER

1. Walking: An Understanding of the Terms



A CLOSER LOOK

Walking

"Be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma" (Ephesians 5:1–2). How can finite human beings imitate an infinite God? By walking in love (5:2), by walking in purity (5:3–7), by walking in light (5:8–14), by walking in wisdom (5:15–20), and by walking in mutual submission and deference toward one another (5:21–6:9). All of our relationships, the apostle Paul explained, should reflect and attest to Christ's reality. It is through a holy life of caring and mutual humility, rather than the dark divisiveness of self-centeredness, that unity in Christ will be achieved for all the world to see.



Quotable

*To walk well,
you must imitate
your Father.*

He is the model.

— Charles R. Swindoll



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2. Walking: An Explanation of the Process

- A. Initial Commands (Ephesians 5:15–17)

- B. Essential Issue (5:18)

- C. Practical Results (5:19–21)



LET'S LIVE IT

Walking: It's Your Move

Here are four truths that apply to both physical and spiritual walking:

- It's a normal part of growth.
- It comes easier the more we grow.
- It's a step-by-step action.
- It implies action and movement.

Pray for the faith to rely on the Spirit's power in your walk.



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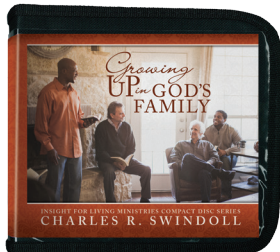
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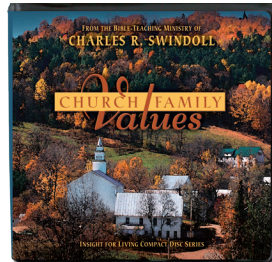
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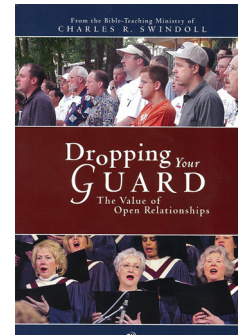
Tools for Digging Deeper



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