

# Talking & Walking – Class Is In

## Series on Prayer & Holiness

- Listening to and Aligning with God's desires
- Learn how to hear & communicate – step one
- Learn how to live in accordance with what we know

## Last Week – 1Peter 1:1-12

- In Light of What God Has Done .....
- New Life Will Bring Change .....
- How You Live Matters .....
- The Stakes Are High .....

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*“So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more. You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”*

*“Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. “In your anger do not sin” Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold. He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.*

*Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:17-32*

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## 1. Pay Attention

- ‘tell you, insist on it, you must no longer....’

### a) No Longer Live As Before

- didn't see what was really going on
- unable to know life with God
- hearts were hard, unable to sense.....
- given over to self and self satisfaction

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b) This is No Longer Your Reality

- what you have been shown about Jesus changes everything for you
- put off the old – put on the new

\* Qualifying Statement – If this is to make sense you...

1. Have heard & responded to the gospel message
  - Luke 8:18, Mark 4:23
2. Have enrolled in the School of Discipleship

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## 2. Change Your Clothes

- take off the old person, put on the new
- vs. 22 – same word or phrase – put off, exchange one for other, lies for truth, old for new, in place of .....
- Col 3:8-9 – “*But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices*” - note it is not only actions but underlying attitudes and mindsets.

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- Putting On the New
  - Col 3:12 – *“Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”*
  - new bundle of attitudes, emotions and practices we are called to put on.
  - not enough to simply have enrollment papers:
    - must attend the lessons – learn the truth
    - must apply the knowledge – put off, put on
    - must understand there will be a requirement

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## c) the Importance of Change

- Matthew 22:1-14

- Hebrews 12:14 – *“Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.”*

- 1 Peter 1:15-17 - *But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.” Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear.”*

- Joshua 7 – Achan's Sin & Camp Purity



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## 3. Effecting The Change

### a) Unique School We Attend

- not a moral self improvement course! Not your job to make the new clothes (legalism, self righteous)
- change comes by grace, through faith, for the glory of the creator not the student
- at the school of grace – new clothes are created, new person we put on – new attitudes, emotions, practices from God to me.
- Eph 2:10 – *“For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*

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## b) Where Do I Begin, Engage?

- legalism – I design and try on, repeat enough information, follow rules designed to prevent me from....

- grace – God created for me, does the work, grants to me the new in place of the old

- \* verse 23 the Key – *“to be made new in the attitude of your minds”*

- old fueled by absence of truth, new fueled by truth

- bridge between corrupting deceit and sanctifying truth is the renewing of our minds!

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## c) Renewing of Our Minds

- 2 Cor. 4:16-18 – *“Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”*

- Col. 3:2-3 – *“Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.”*

- Eph 1:18-19 – *“I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength”*

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So What

## 1. Pay Attention!

- not my opinion, non-negotiable – change must occur
- enrollment not enough – old goes, new arrives – different

## 2. Class Matters

- easy to find information, clear and concise
- hearing and responding – doing – important
- can easily be recognized by new clothes you put on

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## 3. Totally Different School

- Holy Spirit of God In You – revealing, guiding, empowering, gifting, enabling
- change is growing holiness – right attitudes, emotions, actions – new person created and experienced
- seeing the truth is key to our engaging
  - \* renewing of minds by:
    - Immersing in Truth
    - Correction of Focus
    - Commitment of Faith