

SERMON OUTLINE Colossians 1:9-12

How to Walk in a Manner Worthy of the Lord

INTRODUCTION

WALKING IN A MANNER WORTHY OF THE LORD

We Cannot Walk Worthily Apart from the Grace of God - Paul's Prayer of Supplication (9)

We Cannot Walk Worthily Apart from Knowledge of God's Will (9, 10)

The Essence of a Worthy Life (10-12)

1. *It is fully pleasing to God (10)*
2. *It bears fruit in every good work (10)*
3. *It is continually growing in knowledge of God (10)*
4. *It is empowered by God (11)*
5. *It is enduring, patient, and joyful (11)*
6. *It is marked by thankfulness to God for granting such grace in Jesus (12)*

CONCLUSION

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

Living lives that are worthy of the Lord and pleasing to Him requires right thinking, right living, and the grace of God. The main takeaway, then, is to give ourselves to prayerfully studying all of God's Word and prayerfully applying it to all of our lives.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What is the goal of Bible study? Or, when you study the Bible, what are you after? Where do your answers come from?
3. Do you believe that no one can understand, much less love, God's Word or will apart from God's grace? If so, how does that shape your Bible study and prayer life?
4. Which of these aspects of prayer do you most need to consider: (1) Your prayer life is the best indicator of your spiritual health and maturity, (2) Pray the Bible, and (3) Balance between prayers of adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication?
5. Is there anything you have prayed for without ceasing? If so, what and why? If not, why (love, intentionality, discipline, trust)?
6. On a scale of 1-10, how earnestly are you seeking to be filled with the knowledge of God and His will? What are you doing to get to that number? What is something you could do to move the number up?
7. Have you ever considered the idea that we can make an idol out of the Bible or Bible study?
8. Which is your greater temptation, seeking knowledge without walking in it or walking without knowledge?
9. Which aspect of living a life worthy of God (see list above) stands out to you the most and why?
10. Is it easy for you to see the "system" of sanctification Paul describes in this passage? Try to say it in your own words.
11. Can you describe a time you felt the upward or downward pressure of being in or out of God's system of sanctification?
12. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

13. Read straight through the entire book of Colossians.
14. Begin memorizing Colossians 1:15-20.
15. Get a prayer journal. Have certain times of day (or days of the week) that you set aside to pray for the things you write down.
16. Learn to pray prayers of adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication.
17. To learn God's will, prepare well for sitting under and apply the preached Word, come to Berea, and have a daily quiet time.
18. Decide on one new good work to do this week.
19. Ask someone to tell you one thing they got from this sermon and one way to pray for them in light of it.
20. Pick one specific thing you mean to do differently, with the Spirit's help, as a result of the things you heard in this text/sermon.

PRAYER POINTS

21. Adoration. Praise God that He is omnipresent, omniscient, and omnipotent. Praise God that He is sovereign, wise, and good. Praise God for being worthy of all praise. Praise God that He is gracious, loving, and kind.
22. Confess. Confess any aspects of your prayer life that reflect a lack of knowledge of God's will or a lack of desire for it. Ask God to reveal to you ways you are not living in a manner worthy of Him or fully pleasing to Him and confess them back to God.
23. Thanksgiving. Thank God for someone who prays for you regularly. Thank God for giving you His Word. Try to name specific fruit that God has recently born in or through you and thank Him for it. Thank God for keeping you joyfully in Jesus.
24. Supplication. Ask God to fill every member of our church with the love, intentionality, discipline, and trust we need to pray consistently for one another. Ask God to fill us with the knowledge of His will with all spiritual wisdom and understanding.