

TALKING POINTS

RESET - YOUR WALK WITH GOD

LEANING IN

Rather than New Years resolutions, we need to reset some basic foundations. What is the foundation of the Christian life? FAITH. Hebrews says faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. So, how do we grow in faith? We walk with God. Having faith and walking with God are synonymous.

Walking with God is a major theme in both the old and new testaments. In the book of Genesis, it tells us Enoch was the first person said to walk with God. In fact, he walked with God so closely, God took him up to heaven without Enoch having to die!

For us, having a walk with God can open up more intimacy in our relationship with Him, as well as making us more available for Him to use us. The greatest compliment anyone could pay us is - *they walk with God*.

Read Ephesians 2:8, Hebrews 11:1, Genesis 5:22-24

What does "walking with God" look like to you? Are you able to consistently do it?

LIVING IT OUT

So, if we can gain deeper intimacy with God as well as becoming more open to His guidance and purpose for us by walking with Him, the question becomes - how can we learn to walk with God? Here are three concrete steps you can take to establish your walk with God:

Come Into Agreement With God - there are two things we must come into agreement with God about to walk with Him; our *sin* and His *faithfulness*. We're often self-deceived regarding our own sin and oblivious to God's faithfulness to us.

Read 1 John 1:9, Revelation 3:15-20

Why is agreeing with God about our own sin difficult?

Walk In The Light - we walk in the light by following the principles God has laid out in His word, by living in His power and by growing in His grace.

Read John 8:12, 1 John 1:7

What would be the benefits of "walking in the light"?

Practice His Presence - living in God's presence is important to *Him*. We can practice living in God's presence through these four steps:

One - begin our day with the intention of engaging with God. Speak to God, practice His presence, acknowledge Him

Two - turn your complaints into praises by acknowledging God is at work in our lives

Three - turn our suffering into surrender by giving it to God. Suffering either hardens or softens us. Surrendering to God allows Him to redeem it

Four - lead ourselves in worship. The first person we must lead is our self, so actively participate in worship every day

Read Psalms 143:8, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Romans 5:3-5, Acts 16:25

If Paul could sing in worship to God in prison, could you do it in your car?