

WALK THE TALK //////////////////////////////////////

This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just “to know” but to “act upon what we know.” (His Word, Our Walk!) We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends and your LIFEgroup. Although you can review it on your own, it will be most useful to you when processed with others!



FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Have you grasped the concepts of the four P's? If so, what is your reaction?
2. In your opinion, what is the value of a teaching church? How have you seen personal growth because of it?
3. What is the first purpose of prayer and how should that affect our focus when we pray?
4. How have you pursued Christ since you came to faith? What have been the biggest changes that you have made towards Christlikeness?
5. In what specific ways have you prepared for maturity in your faith?
6. How have you and how will you participate?



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SOME THOUGHTS:

1. Periodically, it is good to ASK ourselves “*who do we intend to be*” and then, FOLLOW-up with, “*how are we doing?*”
2. My hope is that you would balance your Christian walk by doing these FOUR things faithfully and continually: Pray, Pursue, Prepare and Participate.

WHAT IS THE FOCUS OF EMMANUEL COMMUNITY CHURCH?

We are a TEACHING, discipling church. This means . . .

1. That we are COMMITTED to Jesus Christ and to His WORD, which is the only real TRUTH that this world has to offer.

Phil. 3:10 I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

2. That we believe Christians should be growing in their KNOWLEDGE of the Word, and the APPLICATION of it in their daily lives (*His Word, Our Walk*).

3. That all believers are GIFTED in a unique way to participate in ministry, and that each one of us should do OUR PART.

4. That we are the “TORTOISE” and not the “HARE.”

PRAY

Eph. 3:20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

1. The first PURPOSE of prayer is to have a RIGHT relationship with the Father. (It isn't to GET stuff!)
2. We should pray that He will do unimaginable WORK and ministry in our world and His CHURCH.
3. Know that what He does THROUGH us is not BECAUSE of us, but because of His power. He gets the GLORY.

PURSUE

Eph. 4:1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. 2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. 3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

As a Christ follower, PURSUE Him. (Worthy life) How?

- Be humble — pride is the beginning of ALL sin!
- Be gentle — Praotēs is “MILD-spirited”
- Be patient — LONG-tempered
- Be making allowances for other's FAULTS out of LOVE.
- Be making every possible effort to keep the UNITY of the Holy Spirit through the bond of peace (Jesus Christ).

PREPARE

Eph. 4:14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

1. The conjunction “THEN” indicates to us what will happen IF we choose to become MATURE.
 - “We will no longer be INFANTS.”
- a. “Tossed back and forth by the waves” talks about FADS. This often happens out of boredom.

b. “Blown here and there by every wind of teaching,” refers to Christian or church TRENDS.

c. “The cunning (kubia) and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming” refers to being easily fooled by HERESY. (Teaching church helps to solve this!)

2. “Speaking the Truth in love” — we will not BEND to saying things that people want to hear or CATER to fads. We must teach the Truth lovingly, even if it is HARD to HEAR at times.

2Tim. 4:3 For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

PARTICIPATE

Eph 4:16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

1. “From Him the whole body,” — The focus is never the CHURCH but the HEAD of the church, Christ.
2. “Joined and held together” — The two words joined and held are synonymous and remind us of the need for UNITY. We don't use our gifts in a vacuum. Instead, when one person uses his/her gift, it BENEFITS the entire body.
3. “By every supporting ligament” — Indicates the VALUE of every part of the body — even those parts that work behind the scenes and are often UNNOTICED.

Col 2:19 He has lost connection with the Head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.
4. “As each part does its work.” — This is the most SIMPLE statement in the passage and needs little explanation. If people don't WORK together — the church can't GROW together.

APPLICATION:

1. We must create the ENVIRONMENT for spiritual growth and attraction.
2. Leadership —
3. Remove the barriers —