THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)



OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray: Abby St. Clair, Helen Spicer, Windell Fikes, Nate, Scott an Natalee, Josiah; Wayne and Cathy; Peggy Beebe. All health care providers

Traveling/Working: Slope workers. Hans is in Dillingham for fishing season. Allice and Christine will be driving outside in August. Aubrey is moving to Texas.

Radio Program: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program.

Today's Scripture: "For we walk by faith, not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)

Wisdom for Today: "But as for me, I will walk in my integrity; Redeem me and be merciful to me." Psalm 26:11 (NKJV)

Attendance Last Sunday 53/48: Our Record: 107

For more detail, please go to the web site.

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God's Plan of Salvation

Hear	Romans 10:17
Believe	Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
Repent	Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess	Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
Be Baptized	Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Arise & Walk in No	ewness of Life Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEETING TIMES	COME JOIN US!
<u>Sunday:</u>	The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:
Bible Classes: 10AM	
AM Worship: 11AM	2061 N. Merciful Circle
PM Worship: 5PM	Wasilla, AK 99654
Wednesday:	(907) 373-5773
Bible Study: 7PM	
OFFICE HOURS Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web	Visit our website at: <u>www.churchofchristwasilla.com</u>

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

The Christian Walk

A religious teacher once asked one of his students to go with him to town to preach. They walked into town from their school, walking through the streets without the teacher ever stopping to speak. When they returned to their school the student, being perplexed about what has just happened, asked the teacher a question. "Teacher, you asked that I go with you to town to preach, but we never stopped to say a word even though there were several places where we could have had a large audience. Why didn't we stop and preach?" The teacher turned to the student and said ; "You can not walk anywhere to preach, without preaching everywhere you walk. The people saw us and saw in our actions our belief in Jesus, so we did actually preach. Not with words but with our walk."

We have all heard that old saying "Your may be the only bible someone will ever read!" While we know what this means, we don't always recognize the truthfulness of the statement. How we live our lives usually means more than what we say. Our life in Christ is often defined as a walk and occasionally as a run or fight. The early Christians understood this. When Paul returned to Jerusalem after having taught Gentiles there was a rumor that he hat taught Jews in the principally Gentile cities to ignore the teachings of Moses and not have their children circumcised. In addition, Paul was accused of teaching them not to "walk" in the customs of the Jews. In an effort to reduce the conflict that this had caused, the Christian leaders in Jerusalem urged Paul to ["] Take them and be purified with them, and pay their expenses so that they may shave their heads, and that all may know that those things of which they were informed concerning you are nothing, but that you yourself also walk orderly and keep the law" Acts 21:24 (NKJV). They all understood that Pauls' actions of purifying himself according to the traditions of the Jews would mean more than all the vocal arguments that they could offer in his defense.

Paul would write to the church in Rome the importance of "walking". In **Romans 6:3-4 (NKJV)** Paul says; "<u>Or do you not know that as many of us as were</u> <u>baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were</u> <u>buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from</u> <u>the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of</u> <u>life.</u>" It is clear that the idea of "walking" often means not the physical act of walking, but how we live our lives. It is also clear that how we live our lives presents a stronger message than what we say. The website www.helpguide.org says this about nonverbal communications "Your nonverbal communication cues—the way you listen, look, move, and react—tell the person you're communicating with whether or not you care, if you're being truthful, and how well you're listening. When your nonverbal signals match up with the words you're saying, they increase trust, clarity, and rapport. When they don't, they can generate tension, mistrust, and confusion. " In simpler

Sermon by: Tom Betti Article By: Bill Beebe

words, when our walk matches our words people trust us more and when our words don't match our way of living, we cannot generate the trust we need to convince others that we are Christians. How many of us have known people who claim to be Christians but whose lives demonstrate something else entirely. I remember a statement that Sam made once in a sermon of his that I heard. That statement was "If you want to convince someone that you are NOT a Christian do what Peter did." He was referring to Peters third denial of Jesus the night He was tried as recorded in **Mark 14:71 (NKJV)**⁷¹ <u>Then he began to curse and swear, "I do not know this Man of whom you speak!"</u>

In **2 Peter 2:9-10 (NKJV)** Peter tells us "then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries," Here Peter tells us about people that God will reserve for punishment. He clearly stated that it is those who "walk according to the flesh". Then he describes this walk as being "the lust of uncleanness and despising authority".

But on the other hand our walk can be and should be concurrent to our words. When this happens we can make the most impact on others lives for Christ. Paul's life was completely turned around when he met Jesus near Damascus. Before then his walk demonstrated his hatred for Jesus and the Christian faith. After his encounter, his walk clearly showed a change. No longer was he a Christian persecutor, in fact he became the persecuted. And the change in his walk was recognizable. He told the church at Corinth "For we walk by faith, not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV) Paul also referred to our life in Christ as a race in 1 Corinthians 9:24 (NKJV) "Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it."

The one thing that our life in Christ that is not described as is standing still. We are either moving forward at a walk or a run, but we can't stand still. If we try to stand still, we begin to move backwards. When we don't study our Bibles the things we had learned begin to slip away and after a while we can't even remember them any longer. So the only option is to keep moving forward. Sometimes we will move forward at a walk and sometimes at a run. There will be times that we are really enthused and times when we are not so active, but we have to keep moving forward in our Christian walk.

