Walk the Walk Ephesians 5:1 (overview of chapter)

I. Intro

- A. We have worked through chapter 4, and discovered some powerful truth:
 - 1. We are ONE in Christ
 - 2. We are GIFTED in Christ
 - 3. We are HELD TOGETHER in Christ
 - 4. We are to WALK in Understanding
 - 5. We are to PUT OFF falsehoods, and impurity in Christ
 - 6. We are to PU ON the new self in Christ
 - 7. We are to GIVE NO ROOM for the enemy
 - 8. We are not to Grieve the Holy Spirit

9. The Spirit is PRESENT!

- 10. We are to be kind to one another
- B. Chapter 5 will further define, and refine our life in Christ
 - 1. We are to Walk in Love, Light, Wisdom, and Relationship
 - 2. We are to fill our lives with conversations, actions, and relationships that model our relationship with Christ.
- C. We are people who are to WALK DIFFERENT from the World!
 - 1. We don't compromise our commitment to Christ
 - 2. We don't compromise the mission of Christ
 - 3. We don't allow anything to get in the way of every opportunity to make much of Jesus!
- D. The enemy to this truth:
 - 1. Self Righteousness: believing you are right and justified to act and live as you so choose, thinking God will bend His word to fit your life
 - 2. Immorality: (same thinking from the other end of the spectrum)
 - 3. If everyone else is always wrong, and you are always right, you have chosen to refuse to allow God to shape your life.

II. Text

- A. Therefore
 - 1. A powerful word in Paul's writings
 - 2. He connects the previous truth to the coming instruction
 - 3. As followers of Christ, put off falsehoods and walk worthy of the calling
 - 4. Don't stand in the way of the work of the Holy Spirit, you have a responsibility
- B. Be imitators of God
 - 1. A summary statement for the chapter
 - 2. Imitating God in all the ways
- C. As beloved children
 - 1. The term beloved is powerful
 - 2. We are not just children of God, we are beloved by God
 - 3. John 3:16 God so loved...
 - 4. 1 John 3:16: 16 By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. 17 But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? 18 Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.
- D. Overview of Chapter:
 - 1. Walk in Love: Verse 2
 - a) Word here is agape.
 - b) We will be challenged to walk in a manner demonstrating the Love of God.
 - 2. Walk in Light: Verse 8

- a) We are to walk in the Light of God, demonstrating the light of God
- b) Walking in light is regarding honesty and visible relationship with God
- 3. Walk in Wisdom: Verse 15
 - a) Wisdom is not a guarantee that comes with age
 - b) We must also pay attention to the experiences and learn from them.
- 4. Walk in proper Fellowship/relationship: Verses 22-33
 - a) The relationship between Christ and His church should be seen in the relationship of Husband and wife.
 - b) We are to demonstrate the fullness of this truth in marriage, and in our church.

III. Points

- A. Walk in Love: Verse 2
 - 1. Word here is agape.
 - 2. We will be challenged to walk in a manner demonstrating the Love of God.
 - 3. Love one another, as Christ has loved you!
 - 4. To walk in this truth implies an intentional action
 - 5. Walking with Jesus is a continual exposure to TRUTH
- B. Walk in Light: Verse 8
 - 1. We are to walk in the Light of God, demonstrating the light of God
 - 2. Walking in light is regarding honesty and visible relationship with God
 - 3. [1Jo 1:5-10 ESV] 5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.
- C. Walk in Wisdom: Verse 15
 - 1. Wisdom is not a guarantee that comes with age
 - 2. We must also pay attention to the experiences and learn from them.
 - 3. Wisdom that coms from God causes us to be more like Him
- D. Walk in proper Fellowship/relationship: Verses 22-33
 - 1. The relationship between Christ and His church should be seen in the relationship of Husband and wife.
 - 2. We are to demonstrate the fullness of this truth in marriage, and in our church.
 - 3. This section of the chapter is not disconnected from the rest of the chapter, it is more conclusion/application, and should be seen in full context or the point will be missed.
- IV. Close:
 - A. The Lord's Supper is a connecting unifier for the relationship we are supposed to have.
 - B. [Mat 26:26-30 ESV] 26 Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." 27 And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, 28 for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. 29 I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." 30 And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.
 - C. The Lord's supper reminds us of the forgiveness that we have, that we share, and that empowers us to right living.
 - D. If you believe on the Lord Jesus, and have trusted Him as savior, this is a sacred moment that I invite you all to receive willingly.