

SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIALS FOR ADULTS

LESSON 10



A SUPERNATURAL WALK

Scripture Texts: 2 Corinthians 5:17-18; 1 Peter 2:2-3; 1 John 3:9; Galatians 5:22-23

Yielding to Jesus is the basic requirement of the Gospel. Such yielding does not patch up a life or merely improve it; it makes a life over. The old things—lust, jealousy, selfish impulses, doubts, anger, and all things detrimental to living a holy life—pass away when one walks with Jesus.

When a man is in Christ, his life becomes radiant, helpful, pure, and his thoughts and acts become transformed with a new and beautiful Spirit. The redeemed man is not taken out of this world, but the world is taken out of him. Instead, he remains in the center of daily activity, and the purposes and opportunities once spent in the interests of sin are now spent to the glory of God.

The daily walk of a child of God is directed and empowered by God. It is a walk made new by Christ, a walk with supernatural spiritual food, supernatural power, and supernatural results.

MEMORY VERSE: *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*

—*Romans 8:14*

DAILY READINGS:

Mon.—**Ephesians 6:1-18** Fighting God's warfare in His power.

Tue.—**Romans 8:6-14** Walking in the flesh or in the Spirit.

Wed.—**Colossians 2:6-15** Continuing in Christ.

Thu.—**2 Peter 1:1-11** Spiritual growth of a saint.

Fri.—**Acts 9:10-20** Ananias obeys the Lord.

Devotional Reading: **John 15:1-10** Can do nothing without Christ.

A New Creature

2 Corinthians 5:17-18 **Therefore if any man be in Christ . . .** *Therefore* always refers back to previous verses—he is a new creature. A saved person is a changed one, made new, one renewed to such an extent that he becomes an absolutely new being. Jesus Christ does not just improve a man or patch him up, He makes him over. Sin is gone from the heart. The flesh is no longer master, Jesus is. Now **all things are of God**. The supernatural God has taken over the life: actions (our walk) are directed by God. Upon conversion, many things are cast out of one's life forever, but there are many things which are kept in one's life and transformed into usefulness to God's work.

A Walk by the Word and of Prayer

1 Peter 2:2-3 As a newborn baby needs physical food, so a soul needs spiritual food. Food for the soul is received from two sources: (1) From Bible study. God's Word is taken into the mind, goes into the heart, and is transformed into thoughts, motives, and acts. (2) By daily communion with God through prayer. The life of a saint is a walk of obedience to God. He has **tasted** of the graciousness of the Lord. Jesus promised answers to prayer (**Matthew 6:6**). A saint goes to God for daily directions, for nourishment, fellowship, courage, and strength.

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A Walk of Holiness

1 John 3:9 Those **born of God do not commit sin**. They have holy—sin-free—lives (**Hebrews 12:14**). Why? The **seed** of God is in them, the life of God. **He cannot sin**. God cannot sin, and He gives one the desire not to sin and the power to carry out his desire. A sinning child of God is an impossibility. Daily conduct is where either the natural or the supernatural shows at work in the life. Holiness is where the inner springs of the life bubble forth and reveal whether they be of God or not.

In **2 Corinthians 4:7** we read, **We have this treasure in earthen vessels**. We are made of dust, are weak, only human. We have no power for living or giving out the Gospel. **The Excellency of the power MUST be of God**, not us. It is an asset to our walk with God if we will praise Him as we see the Gospel shown forth in our lives.

Bearing Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22-23 Where the Holy Spirit lives, He bears fruit. These are inward virtues which produce outward acts. A child of God walks differently from natural people of the world. The supernatural grace of God in his life teaches him to deny **ungodliness and worldly lusts** and to **live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world (Titus 2:11-12)**. When one is born of the Spirit, he bears the fruit of the Spirit. As he yields continually to the Spirit's control, he bears more and more fruit.

The Christian life is not a hard, restricted way, forced into a mold it does not fit. Christ's yoke is easy and His commandments are not grievous. Salvation is not a burdensome effort to do right. Rather, it is the power to do right. In **1 John 4:7-8** we read, **love is of God**. Here is the reason why the Christian walk is fitting for him. The Christian walk is a walk of love. This is not a human love, but the same love God has. Without this supernatural love, we are only natural man—unsaved. **He that loveth not knoweth not God**. How can we get this divine love? To have corn, we must have corn seed. To have love, we must have Him Who is love. **The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost (Romans 5:5)**.

But this life is not without temptation. Satan is ever scheming to catch us unawares. We are still in the world where all meet hardship, pain, sorrow, and disappointment. But none need go back into sin if he will watch and pray diligently with faith and trust in God. If, in a careless moment, he is overcome by Satan, he should immediately repent and seek forgiveness (**1 John 2:1**). Unregenerate people love their family and friends with human love. God requires love that comes from Him.

Form the Good Habits

Since prayer and God's Word are so essential to Christian growth, every home should practice daily family worship—prayer and Bible reading with the whole family together. Each one immediately upon being saved should set aside time each day for private Bible study and prayer besides the family worship. This will prove to be one of the greatest sources of growth in grace and of strength against temptation and backsliding. Sons of God are led by the Spirit. *Led* signifies not a once-for-all experience, over and done, but a continuous day-by-day walk with God. It is growth in grace. It is the path of the just (**Proverbs 4:18**).

JUST A THOUGHT

**Some people send up a ten-cent prayer
and expect a million-dollar answer.**

This lesson is adapted from a lesson by Mary Lehmann.
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