



BEACON

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The Christian Walk

Mike Demory

In Philippians 3:16-18 Paul says:

whereunto we have attained, by that same *rule* let us walk. Brethren, be ye imitators together of me, and mark them that so walk even as ye have us for an ensample. For many walk, of whom I told you often, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ.

Every Christian has a duty to walk (live) in the same manner that Paul, Timothy, Silas, Barnabas, and others of the first century lived. Paul says that they are an example to us. We have an obligation in the church, as well as in society, to be noticeably different than everyone else in the world. Our number one duty toward God, as His representatives on earth, is to “make disciples of all nations” (Mat. 28:19).

As individuals, elders, deacons, teachers, and preachers of the Lord’s church, we need to personally address such issues that many times we tend not to think about, such as the following:

- Do I, as a member of the church, volunteer to help in the upkeep of the facilities? Or do I have to be asked? Or does the congregation have to hire it done (Rom. 12:10; Phi. 2:3)?
- Do I make every effort to encourage friends, neighbors, and family members to attend Bible classes and worship services of the church?
- As a Bible class teacher, do I make an honest effort to prepare lessons that will benefit my students spiritually?
- Do I understand that as a man, God has given me certain responsibilities as head of my home, as well as in spiritual guidance for my family (Eph. 5:23; 6:4)?
- In what direction is my Christian walk going? Am I excelling, or lagging (1 The. 4:1)?
- Is my stand for the truth more in the line of “men-pleasing,” or is it as a true slave of Christ (Eph. 6:6)?
- With respect to my Christian walk, am I the first to serve the needs of others, or do I expect others to serve me (Mat. 7:12)?
- Concerning those that walked among us disorderly, who worked not at all, but were busybodies, should I not care for their souls enough to try to turn them to repentance (2 The. 3:11; Gal. 6:1; 2 Tim. 2:24-25; Jam. 5:20; 4:17)?
- Realizing the elders have the primary responsibility for the image of the church, am I willing to encourage them to set higher spiritual goals for the congregation?
- If the church is to continue its presence into the future our numbers must grow. Am I willing to renew my commitment and dedication to the cause of Christ, through door knocking, Bible studies, inviting friends, neighbors, etc. (Mat. 8:19)?

- What specific steps can I take to improve my dedication as well as the dedication of others toward the cause of Christ?
- Is my Christian walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, bearing fruit in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God (Col 1:10)?
- Do I realize my example either strengthens or hinders the work as well as the growth of the Lord's church?
- Am I willing to carefully compare my own Christian walk to the Bible, and then make the appropriate changes so I may reflect the true likeness of Christ?
- Am I growing enough spiritually that I am of the same mind in all matters of obligation (Rom. 15:5-6)?
- Do I understand that as a man, my prayers will be hindered if I do not treat my wife with honor (1 Pet. 3:7)?
- Do I understand that as a woman, God requires me to submit myself to my husband (1 Pet. 3:1)?
- Do I realize if there is unrepented sin in my life, that I am lost (1 John 3:4)?
- With respect to my eternal hope, do I really understand how much God expects out of me (1 Pet. 1:13-15)?
- Do I choose a congregation that I can work with, or one that will serve my wants?
- Am I as noble as the Bereans, searching the Scriptures daily to make sure the truth is being always taught (Acts 17:11)?
- Do others think I am strange because I do not run with them to the same excess of riot, or do I fit in (1 Pet. 4:4; 1 The. 4:11-12)?
- When times get tough, do I cast all my cares upon God, or do I wallow in self-pity (1 Pet. 5:7)?
- Am I at all times set for the defense of the Gospel or is that the preacher's job (Phi. 1:17)?

These are just a few things that we all should consider concerning our Christian walk. You may think of others. It is my prayer that each of us seriously think on these things and our personal responsibility toward God and our fellowman. May our walk (lifestyle) conform to the dictates of God's will, not our own.

Mexico, MO

The story is told about a new preacher coming to a particular church. He was full of sophisticated seminary knowledge and taught little from the Bible. His lessons reflected the higher criticism of liberal theology. At the end of two years, he was told about one of the men of the church who was ill. He went to see him. There was little chance of the sick man's recovery. He was dying. After some talk, the preacher said, "Shall I read to you and pray with you?" "Yes," replied the man, and motioned to his wife to bring a Bible. A Bible was brought, and the minister opened it and saw a strange sight. Some books were taken out of it, some pages were torn away, some chapters gone, and some verses cut out; it was a terribly mangled Bible. The preacher questioned, "Have you not a better Bible than this?" The man said, "When you came to the church, I had a whole Bible, but as soon as you told me that one book was fiction, I tore it out; and that one chapter was not true, I removed it; and that some verses were unauthentic, I cut them out. And if I had another year under you, I think I should have had the two covers and nothing else." How strange and tragic that some of those who call themselves preachers have done more than others to destroy the Bible in the minds of people. They preach doubts and not faith. How much Bible do you have left?

J. Noel Merideth, Deceased

Everyone is invited to attend!

Bellview Church of Christ

Gospel Meeting

with

Gilbert Gough

October 4–8, 2026

Sunday Bible Class:	Lovest Thou Me?
Sunday Morning Worship:	The Kingdom of Heaven (Part 1)
Sunday Afternoon Worship:	The Kingdom of Heaven (Part 2)
Monday Evening:	The Kingdom at War and Peace
Tuesday Evening:	Know the Enemy
Wednesday Evening:	Encouragement for the Present
Thursday Evening:	Man Under God's Wrath

Sunday: 9:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M., & 1:00 P.M.

Monday – Thursday Evenings: 7:00 P.M.

A covered-dish meal will be provided on Sunday,
after the morning service, in the fellowship building.

Visitors are invited!

The lessons will be available for viewing on our website at:

<http://www.bellviewcoc.com/meeting.html>

Website

<https://www.bellviewcoc.com>

Sermons

<https://www.bellviewcoc.com/sermons.html>

Bible Classes

<https://www.bellviewcoc.com/classes.html>

Gospel Meeting

<https://www.bellviewcoc.com/meeting.html>

Defender

<https://www.bellviewcoc.com/defender.html>

Beacon

<https://www.bellviewcoc.com/beacon.html>

Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/BellviewCoC>

YouTube Channel

[https://www.youtube.com/c/
BellviewChurchOfChrist](https://www.youtube.com/c/BellviewChurchOfChrist)

Michael Hatcher's YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/user/52MichaelH>

Defender and Beacon

Available Via Email

Send your email address to:

bellviewcoc@gmail.com

Beacon

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Sick

Remember in your prayers:

Bill & Peggy Crowe

Nancy Travis

Linda Worley

Carla Burleson

Bill & Pam Busch

Linda Parks

Phyllis Brantley

Please Remember

September 30

Fifth Wednesday Singing at 7:00 p.m., in
the auditorium.

October 4-8

Gospel Meeting with Gilbert Gough

Weekly Services

Sunday

Bible Classes for all ages — 9:00 a.m.

Morning Worship Service — 10:00 a.m.

Afternoon Worship Service — 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes for all ages — 7:00 p.m.

Bellview Church of Christ

Bishops: Paul Brantley
Michael Hatcher

Minister: Bill Busch
Tim Cozad