

What Does It Take to Walk the Believer's Walk? Colossians 2:6-7

⁶ As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, ⁷ rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

Paul Exhorts the Colossians to Continue Walking in the Lord

1. What Commenced at Our Conversion

"As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord"

Ὡς οὖν παρελάβετε τὸν Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν τὸν κύριον

How did you receive the Lord? (John 1:12) – By belief

2. Is to Continue in Our Conduct

"so walk in Him" ἐν αὐτῷ περιπατεῖτε

How are you to be walking (living)? (Rom 1:17) – By belief

The Old Lifestyle – 3:7 "in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them." (see 3:5-7)

The New Lifestyle

- 1:10 – that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing [Him], being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; (*intentional, worthy, God-pleasing, fruitful, knowledge-increasing*)
- 2:6 As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, (*faith-filled, learning*)
- 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward those [who are] outside, redeeming the time. (*wise, strategic*)

Other Times We Are Commanded to WALK

John 12:35 Then Jesus said to them, "A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going.

Gal 5:16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit (πνεύματι περιπατεῖτε), and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Eph 5:2 And walk in love (περιπατεῖτε ἐν ἀγάπῃ), as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us....

Eph 5:8 For you were once darkness, but now [you are] light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (ὡς τέκνα φωτὸς περιπατεῖτε)

Eph 5:15 See then that you walk circumspectly (ἀκριβῶς πῶς περιπατεῖτε), not as fools but as wise,

Col 4:5 Walk in wisdom (ἐν σοφίᾳ περιπατεῖτε) toward those [who are] outside, redeeming the time.

Northridge Baptist Church – Pastor Kevin Subra – September 23, 2012

Paul Explains What "Walking In Him" Looks Like

1. Being Grounded – Having been rooted ἐρριζωμένοι

- Perfect Passive – something done to us in a completed way, required at the beginning to enable true, healthy growth (Lu 8:13)
- Perfect – past tense with continuing results – essential basis to build on (ABCs; musical notes)
- (only here and Eph 3:17 "rooted and grounded in love")
- Heb 5:12—6:3 (5:12) "first principles," "milk"; (6:1) "elementary [principles]," "foundation"
- This is the opposite of the "basic principles of the world" (2:8, 20)
- Requires us to be present, involved, learning and using what we are learning.

2. Being Grown – While being built up in Him ἐποικοδομούμενοι

- Present Passive – something done to us on an ongoing basis (we cannot do it, a continual need)
- Continually being built up in the Lord – we have an *ongoing need* for ongoing building up
- Requires us to be continually present, actively involved, and purposefully learning to allow the growing to occur

3. Being Guided – While being confirmed (established) in the faith, just as you have been taught βεβαιούμενοι

- Present Passive – something done to us on an ongoing basis (we cannot do it, a continual need)
- Requires us to be continually present, actively involved, and purposefully learning which turns into unwavering progress
- Walking involves ongoing living guided by ongoing learning – measuring our actions by the truth – routine and habit...

4. Being Grateful – While abounding in thanksgiving

περισσεύοντες ἐν εὐχαριστίᾳ

- Present Active – Something done by the believer continuously (4:2 – key part of prayer; Phil 4:6)
- Eph 5:3-4 – Thankfulness replaces many vices as a way of life, replacing a lifestyle of discontent, indulgence, complaining, & self-centeredness with a focus on what God has done & is doing.

Ὡς οὖν παρελάβετε τὸν Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν τὸν κύριον, ἐν αὐτῷ περιπατεῖτε, ἐρριζωμένοι καὶ ἐποικοδομούμενοι ἐν αὐτῷ καὶ βεβαιούμενοι τῇ πίστει καθὼς ἐδιδάχθητε, περισσεύοντες ἐν εὐχαριστίᾳ.

As therefore you received the Christ Jesus the Lord, in Him be walking {~!}, having been rooted {→} and while being built up in Him and while being confirmed in the faith as you have been taught while abounding in thankfulness.