

"What it Means to Walk Worthy" by Dr. Richard Rogers January 10, 2016 Ephesians 4:1 (Listen Online)

## THE BIG IDEA

The gospel is the good news that our salvation is forever secure because of God alone (Ephesians 1-3). But it is more than simply good news. It demands much of us. The gospel must affect every part of our life in a grace-filled pursuit of Christlikeness (Ephesians 4-6). In today's passage, Paul begins his discussion of what it looks like to walk worthy of the gospel.

**START A CONVERSATION** (Use this to begin a Conversation that Matters with your kids, coworkers, spouse, or someone in line at the grocery store. Then, <u>tell us about it</u>.)

In what ways should a Christian's life differ from someone who doesn't know Jesus?

## **SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT**

- If the message we want to share is about salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone, why does the way we live matter? What's the relationship between how we live and what we say with our mouths? Where does the Bible talk about this relationship?
- Paul speaks strongly to the Ephesians as he "implores" them to live differently. Who do you know that speaks into your life with conviction like this? Who are you currently encouraging in a similar way? Take time to thank God for these people. If you have difficulty naming people like this, ask God what you need to do to find them.
- We talked a lot about anchoring your life to the plan of God. In your own words, what is the plan of God for you? For your family or community? For all of human history?
- Richard outlined the importance of Bible intake and prayer in the pursuit of walking like Jesus. What effect does the Bible and prayer currently have on your everyday life?

## **GO DEEPER**

- On what grounds do we say the gospel requires something of us? And what relationship does this requirement have to the idea that grace is free? Let <u>a brief devotional</u> from Tabletalk magazine help you wade out in that water a bit. Likewise, Kevin DeYoung takes a good look at <u>the role of effort in our holiness</u>.
- How does the gospel give us the energy to walk in a worthy manner? In this brief video, Jared Wilson explains how the freedom of salvation empowers us to walk.
- Richard mentioned the absolute primacy of the Bible as the way we know what God is up to and what he requires of us. Without it, we have no hope of knowing him. It truly is a miracle that God wrote a book for you.

## LIVE IN LOVE THIS WEEK

If we ever hope to walk in a manner worthy of the calling, we have to first know the calling. This week, spend time in prayer thanking God for the gift of the Bible to your life. Then, read it prayerfully asking God to open your eyes to see him and his calling on you more clearly.

You can find a list of recommended resources to get started at <a href="https://www.uhbc.net/meetwithGod">uhbc.net/meetwithGod</a>.

