

**DISCIPLESHIP 1  
IDENTIFICATION  
SERIES**

**LESSON 8  
UNIT II  
DEVELOPING GODLY HABITS - PART 4**

**WALKING CIRCUMSPECTLY  
CONFESSION OF IDENTIFICATION**

For  
**CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE  
CHRISTIAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY**

**[www.cistonline.org](http://www.cistonline.org)**

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**DEVELOPING GODLY HABITS - PART 4**  
**WALKING CIRCUMSPECTLY Part 1**

**THE FINAL STEP** in Putting on the New Man, Paul in Ephesians 5:15 describes as **WALKING CIRCUMSPECTLY**. He says,

"See then that ye **WALK CIRCUMSPECTLY, not as fools, but as wise . . .**"

To walk circumspectly means to walk carefully. Psalms 119:105 say,

"**The word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.**"

We are to let the Word of God reveal to us **the specific details of our walk**, our living as children of God, and then we are **to give careful attention to those details**.

**Therefore WALKING CIRCUMSPECTLY (CAREFULLY) has then to do with GIVING ATTENTION to the DETAILS of our Christian Walk, our lifestyle.**

Since our Father God is concerned about the details of our walk He follows up the instructions to walk carefully with the details to which He would have us give careful attention in our lives. Thus in the remaining verses of Ephesians chapter five and through verse eighteen of chapter six He outlines for us **seven specific areas of our life about which we are to give careful attention**.

1. In **verse 17** He says, **UNDERSTAND THE WILL OF GOD.**
2. In **verse 18** we are to **BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT.**
3. **Verse 19** speaks about **GETTING THE RIGHT THINGS DOWN IN YOUR HEART.**
4. **Verse 20** says, **GIVE THANKS ALWAYS FOR ALL THINGS.**
5. **Verse 21** speaks of **SUBMITTING YOURSELVES TO ONE ANOTHER.**
6. **Verses 22-6:9** gives **DETAILS CONCERNING RELATIONSHIPS.**
  - **wives to husbands**
  - **husbands to wives**
  - **children to parents**
  - **fathers to children**
  - **employees to employers**
  - **employers to employees**
7. **Verse 10, chapter 6** tells us to **BE STRONG IN THE LORD.**
  - verses 11-18, Shows us **why** we need to be strong in the Lord and **how** to be strong in the Lord.

HERE THEN ARE **SEVEN AREAS OF OUR CHRISTIAN WALK** TO WHICH WE ARE TO GIVE CAREFUL ATTENTION. LET US NOW LOOK AT EACH ONE MORE CLOSELY.

1. **FIRST**, we are to have **UNDERSTANDING** as to what the will of God is for us. We are not just to know His will for us **BUT**, we are also to having understanding concerning His will. Of course understanding must start with knowledge. Do you know the will of God for you? If you don't there is no way you can understand.

Simply, God's will for **you is that you be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ** so that He will not only have His Son Jesus to give Him pleasure and joy but He will have many more just like Jesus. Romans 8:29.

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."

We are to know and understand that we are being **transformed into the image of Christ**. If we understand this, then, we know whatever is going on in our lives, good or bad, that our Father is using these circumstances and situations, even permitting them, to bring about this **TRANSFORMATION**.

If we understand this we can then rest in total and complete confidence and trust that our Father God is in control, That He loves us. That He knows what is best for us. And that He will give us the grace and strength to get through it. In fact, to more than just get through problems and adverse circumstances. He will give us the grace to say with the Apostle Paul, "none of these things move me." Amen. Thus we will be able to rejoice and have joy in the midst of the stormy trials of live. In fact we will be able to say when the going gets hard. "Lord, turn up the fire, because I want to be more like Jesus."

That's all well and good, but does it mean that in our every day life and activities that we are left to do what we think is right? **NO!** For not only has our Father God revealed His will, His goal for our lives and is in fact accomplishing it in us, **But**, He also has clearly given us His will for our day to day activities.

We see this will of God expressed in His commandments. Therefore God's commandments are to be the guide for our day to day activities.

Now Paul in Galatians 5:14 gives us **UNDERSTANDING** concerning the how of letting God's commandments direct our lives - instead of them burdening us down with a bunch of rules and regulations, of do's and don'ts. **We are to UNDERSTAND that love "is the fulfillment of all the commandants. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."**

When we understand this, it truly simplifies our lives. For we know and understand that when all the activities of our lives, of our calling are governed by being kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving to those with whom we are placed in contact, that we are walking in love. Since love is fulfilling the Law we then are being led by the will of God.

2. SECOND we are to give careful attention is to **OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**. Ephesians 5:18 says, "...be filled with the Spirit." Luke 11:13 tells us that the Father will give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him, We understand by this that our Father wants us to have the fullness of the Holy Spirit operating in our lives and He will give Him to those who ask for this precious gift.

Now if you do not have the gift of the Holy Spirit, better know as being **baptized with the Holy Spirit**, this is a detail to which you need to give special attention. [For information about the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, refer back to lesson 14 in the Foundation Series.]

If you have been baptized with the Holy Spirit you need to give careful attention to not grieving Him or quenching His operating freely in your life. **You need to daily ask the Father to fill you to overflowing with the Holy Spirit.**

3. THIRD, Ephesians 5:19 says, "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." There are many applications which could be made from this verse, BUT the one thing the Lord is saying to us concerning this Scripture, the thing He wants us to give careful attention to is simply this: **WE ARE TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT WHAT WE ARE PUTTING INTO OUR HEARTS.**

". . . for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

Much too often we are very careless about what comes out of our mouths. Therefore, if we are speaking to ourselves in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs and the melody in our heart is to the Lord, then that, which comes out of our mouths will be edifying to us and those around us and our Father will be glorified. Because, in this way we are filling our hearts with the things of God, Amen.

4. FOURTH, we are to be careful in our **THANKSGIVING**. Ephesians 5:20 puts it this way, "Giving thanks ALWAYS **FOR ALL THINGS** unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Concerning this 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, "**IN EVERY THING** give THANKS: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

Thus we learn that the details of thanksgiving to which we are to carefully do is to **always give thanks to our Father God in and for ALL THINGS.**

If you can not thank your Father regardless of what the circumstances may be - especially the bad - then you are blaming Him. And you do not understand the will of your Father God. **THANKSGIVING IS THE ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE.**

**WALKING CIRCUMSPECTLY Part 2**

5. THE FIFTH area of our walk as children of God to which we are to carefully give attention has to do with **SUBMISSION**. Ephesians 5:21 says, "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God."

**SUBMISSION TO ONE ANOTHER** has to do with how we see ourselves relative to our brothers and sisters in the Lord, The Greek word translated submitting means to rank under. Practically applying this in our relationship with one another means, that we consider our brothers and sisters and their needs before we give consideration to ourselves and our needs.

Galatians 5:13, ". . . by love serve one another."

6. SIXTH. Ephesians 5:22-6:9 lists **SIX RELATIONSHIPS AND GIVES SPECIFIC DETAILS FOR THE GOVERNING OF THEM**. [Refer to the Bible Study entitled **Higher Powers (Authorities) - Part 4-** "<http://bibleinst.com/BibleSchool/POWERS.htm>"]

- Relationship of a **WIFE TO HER HUSBAND**. Ephesians 5:22, "Wives, SUBMIT yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord." The wife is to find her place under the headship and covering of her husband as a helpmate.[Refer to lesson 27 and 49 in The Foundation Series.]
- Relationship of a **HUSBAND TO HIS WIFE**. Ephesians 5:23;25, "...the husband is the head of the wife . . . Husbands, LOVE your wives, even as Christ loved the church, and gave Himself for it." We would also note concerning the relationship of husbands to their wives, that since they are the head of the wife this places them in the position of serving their wives and DOES NOT place them in a position of being served. Matthew 20:21, here Jesus says, "And whosoever will be chief (head) among you, let him be your **SERVANT**." This applies in the relationship of a husband to his wife.
- Relationship of **CHILDREN TO PARENTS**. Ephesians 6:1-3. "Children, OBEY your parents in the Lord: for this is right. HONOR thy father and mother . . ." Children who **CAREFULLY** give attention to obeying and honoring their parents will be blessed with a long abundant life.
- Relationship of **FATHERS TO THEIR CHILDREN**. Ephesians 6:4, "...fathers, provoke not your children to wrath (don't be too soft nor too harsh in your relationship with your children, **BUT** love them - don't be afraid to use the rod of correction **BUT** use it in love): but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."
  - Fathers teach your children both by example and through the Word the ways of your Father God. Teach them and encourage them to **PUT ON THE NEW MAN WHICH IS CREATED IN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND TRUE HOLINESS**.

- Fathers this is your responsibility not your wife's. You are the head, she is a helpmate, a partner but you are to take the responsibility and lead in the bringing up of your children.
- [Refer to Bible Study Training up Children  
"<http://bibleinst.com/BibleSchool/PARENT.htm>"]
- Relationship of **EMPLOYEES TO EMPLOYERS**. Ephesians 6:5, "Servants, be obedient to them . . . as unto Christ . . . Not with eye-service, as men pleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the WILL of God from the heart. Employees are to give a day's work for a day's pay without grumbling and complaining. Doing what their employer says to do the way he tells them to do it.
- Relationship of **EMPLOYERS TO EMPLOYEES**. Ephesians 6:9, " And, ye masters (employers), do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven . . ." Employers are to give their employees a fair and substantial days pay for a days work, **RESPECTING THEM AND THEIR NEEDS**.

7. THE SEVENTH AREA of walking circumspectly we see in Ephesians 6:10, "**Finally, my brethern, BE STRONG in the Lord, and in the POWER of His might.**"

To be strong in the Lord means that we must realize and be conscious of the fact that we are nothing without Jesus, and that we can do nothing of ourselves. That we are weak and helpless and that if our Father was not watching over us and caring for us that we would perish.

Thus to be strong in the Lord is to know and understand that we go in the power of His might. In His strength, not in our strength.

2 Corinthians 13:4, " For though he was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God. For **we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the power of God toward you.**"

Therefore, "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Ephesians 6:11.

If we are careless about going in God's strength and power; if we do not put on the armour of God which God in His grace has given us; we will not be able to stand when Satan comes against us with his schemes to entrap us.

Let us, therefore, give special attention to the details concerning the armour our Father has given us and carefully put on all this armour and leave it on.

Ephesians 6:14-18, "Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with TRUTH, and having on the breastplate of RIGHTEOUSNESS: and your feet shod with the preparation of the GOSPEL OF PEACE: above all, taking the shield of FAITH, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the HELMET OF SALVATION, and the SWORD of the spirit, which is the WORD of God. PRAYING always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching there unto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."

**If you are going to put on the new man and walk in righteousness and true holiness before your Father and enjoy the abundant life of health and prosperity which He desires for you, then you must learn the godly habit of walking circumspectly, CAREFULLY, PAYING ATTENTION TO THE DETAILS OF YOUR LIFE, ACTIVITIES AND RELATIONSHIPS AS GOD'S VERY OWN DEAR CHILDREN.**

### **YOUR CONFESSION OF IDENTIFICATION**

The following Confession of Identification, is a confession of who you are in Christ Jesus,

I am a **BELIEVER in Jesus** Christ. I believe that the Word of God is true and that every **promise** in the Bible belongs to me. The Bible says, that I am a child of the most high God . That I am an heir of God, joint-heir with Jesus Christ, The Bible says, because I am a believer, that I am the head and not the tail, that I am from above and not from beneath, that I am blessed as I go out, as I come in, as I sit down, as I arise, as I walk in the way. The blessing of God shall over take me, because I am a believer

When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord, will lift up a standard against him, for He that is within me, is greater, than he that is in the world.

I am being changed from glory to glory by the Holy Spirit - old things are passed away, and the new life is in bloom, Because I am a believer, the Bible says, that I am the righteousness of God, in Christ Jesus. That I am what I am by the grace of God.

Thanks be to God, who always causes me to triumph in Christ Jesus - I am hid with Christ in God, Satan can not touch me as I remain in my safe hiding place, because I am a believer.

Thanks be to God who gives me the victory - in all things I am more than a conqueror. If God be for me who can be against me. YES, I am hid with Christ in God, safe and secure in Him. To know God is to love Him. Praise the Lord, "In Him I live and move and have My being." AMEN and AMEN!!

### **END of IDENTIFICATION Series**

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