



Small Group Curriculum

Knowing God — Walking with God • WEEK 4

Scripture: Genesis 3:8; Proverbs 13:20; Psalm 119:45; 1 John 1:7 & 2:11

OVERVIEW

When you read the Bible, you will see that the God of the Bible is revealed to us as a God who walks alongside humankind. From the beginning in the Garden of Eden, we see that God walks in the midst of Adam and Eve. In the very first pages of the Bible, we are set up to see this theme— to walk with God is to walk in life and light; to walk without God is to walk in death and darkness.

Throughout the Biblical story, we see this pattern where God's people walk with the Lord and are blessed, they choose to walk astray from God and are cursed, God's people suffer and repent, and God reaffirms His covenant with them. A covenant in its most basic sense is a promise and over and over across scripture, God speaks this promise, "Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people; walk only in the way that I command you, so that it may be well with you." (Jer 7:23)

The problem is that we continue to walk ways that go contrary to God's desires. Bringing us to dissatisfaction, darkness, and death. The solution is the Sunday school answer: Jesus Christ. Jesus' life is the perfect model of how it looks to walk with God and walk with others. Jesus' death erases the fault we've earned for walking astray. Jesus' resurrection brings us hope that we no longer have to walk in our old ways, but in trusting and walking with Him our walk with God is a new walk with roots of love and gratitude and fruits of obedience. When we trust and walk with Jesus, we walk in life and light and everything and everyone around us are affected by that walk.

REMINDERS

- Easter One-Time Serve: opportunities to serve on April 4th-5th. More info and registration [here](#).
- We are so excited to celebrate baptisms on April 12th! If you want to take the next step in your faith and learn more about baptisms, sign up for our Baptism classes on April 7th [here](#).
- All upcoming events can be found [here](#).

ICEBREAKER

If you could go on a walk with Jesus, in person, tomorrow, what would you ask Him or talk about?



INTRODUCTION

From Dr. Charlie Self's message, he talked about watching people walk in real life. From friend groups walking in groups of 8 in a single line, to parents trying to walk faster to catch up to their children, to a couple walking and the man pausing mid-walk to propose. The point here is that everyone's walk and season looked different. Some were walking fast, some walking slow. Some were walking in groups, others alone. Some were walking through a heavy season, others walking in a season of great joy. Our walks with God can reflect a lot of that. Some seasons of walking with God may be joyous or they may be difficult. Fast or slow. Lonely or accompanied. The beautiful truth is that whatever our season of walking with God looks like today, God meets us where we are, extends His gracious hand and says, "Follow me" all the same. In every season, He walks with us, leads and guides us, because He loves us.

LEAD QUESTION: What does your walk with God look like now?

Transition: While we all have differing walks with God, we can be amazed that all of our walks and different seasons, God led us to be in this group together. He brought our walks together. Perhaps by sharing about your walk, we can learn and encourage each other in our personal walk with God.

DISCUSSION

1. Read Genesis 3:8

- a. We know that from the beginning, God desires to walk alongside His people. What changes in our relationship with God when we remember that God *wants* to walk with us?
- b. God began the walk with us. Tell the story of how your walk with God began.

2. Read Proverbs 13:20

- a. Who we walk with greatly influences the quality of our walks with God. We all have people who impact our walk for better or for worse. Who in your life has had the greatest impact on your walk with Jesus? Why and how?

3. Read Psalm 119:45

- a. The Psalmist says he can walk in freedom because he sought God's *precepts* (precepts are what God says should be done). God's ways don't always feel freeing. Share a time you found it difficult to obey God. How did God walk you through that?

RESPONSES FOR THE WEEK

Through the rest of your week reflect on this— "Loving God means loving people. And loving people means walking with them just as God is walking with you."

1. Read 1 John 1:7 & 2:11
2. Reflect on your walk with God, is it growing in intimacy or drifting?
3. Assess on whether fellowship with the church body is deepening or tapering.



4. Ask to meet with a church friend for coffee and check in on their walk with God.
5. Send a text or email of gratitude to someone who helped you with your faith.

PRAYER

Pray in three phases:

1. Pray, praising the characteristics of God. (Merciful, gracious, loving, patient, generous, etc.)
2. Pray over your walk with God.
 - a. Wisdom for deepening your faith.
 - b. Strength to remove distractions.
 - c. Forgiveness and breakthrough for sin.
 - d. Gratitude for the way God walks with you in spite of our efforts.
3. Pray to walk with others well.
 - a. At home.
 - b. At work.
 - c. At church.
 - d. In your local community.