Pastor Grant // 1 Cor. 9:24-27 // January 1, 2017

Living Water Church

Diving Deeper: A Gather Group discussion guide

Walk It Out

Introduction: January 1, 2017 is a day that many of us use to hit the refresh button on our life and set new goals. The message with this study lays out a resolution to walk out our faith in 2017 and taking responsibility for our own walk with Christ.

Text: 1 Cor. 9:24-27 & Proverbs 4:20-27

Discussion:

1. Icebreaker: Can you think of a time when something happened in your life. Instead of taking responsibility you passed it off. What happened? How did you feel?
2. Read the passages listed above and underline every action word required of us. Discuss/write what it means for the believer to take responsibility for their walk in Christ.
3. What does Paul say that he does to his body in 1 Cor. 9:24-27? Have you ever disciplined yourself to win a temporary prize like a trophy or a championship or a race/event? Discuss/Write what you had to do to get yourself ready for that moment? Was the sacrifice worth it?
4. If we are willing to have discipline for earthly rewards, what should be our mindset for eternal gain? Discuss/write
5. I will walk with my mind transformed by His word. How do we walk this out? Read Rom. 12:2.
6. I will walk with my eyes fixed on His Cross. Read Heb. 12:1-2. What was the joy set before Jesus? What does the cross mean for the believer and how does that motivate faithfulness to Him?
7. I will walk with my ears attentive to His voice. Read John 10:27 If you have ever owned a pet, how did you train your pet to obey your voice? How can we train our ears to the voice of Jesus? The world is preaching it's message and it largely disagrees with God's word. Why is knowing and obeying scripture essential to the believer?
8. What does it mean to have a discerning ear? What is the evidence in the American church that we are weak in discernment?
9. I will walk with my mouth declaring His truth. Read Psalm 89:1 How can we use our mouth to bring glory to God?
10. I will walk with my heart beating with His passion. Read Luke 4:18-19. What is Jesus passionate about? What should believers be passionate about?
11. I will walk with my hands building His kingdom. Read Romans 16 and Philip 4:3. What do you notice about this list? We can either use our hands to build up or tear down. How can we build His kingdom together?
12. I will walk with my feet walking on His path. Read Prov. 4:26-27. If you are hiking on a trail and you see a "danger, do not enter" sign. What do you do? Why? Where are places in everyday life we need to avoid? Where are places we need to visit more? How can you make your path level?

Think About it:

God is completely sovereign. He is in control and has all things in His hands. The belief in the sovereignty of God, however, does not excuse us from our responsibility. There are many commands and words of wisdom given for the believer to obey and follow. God gives us the power to carry out His commands through the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is not going to force your hand to open the scripture, or your mouth to share the gospel. . . you must do this. Take responsibility for "you" this year and walk out your faith in Christ in 2017!

Moving Forward:

This week go over each area of the resolution and begin to write out an action plan for how you will walk out your faith in Jesus in 2017. Every day, pray a prayer over your mind, eyes, ears, mouth, heart, hand, and feet and take it under control and discipline your body for eternal gain.