Subject: Walking with God Scripture: Genesis 5:18-24

The Bible often uses the word "walk" for our daily life, lifestyle, and conduct. In this message God is reminds us of the high privilege and serious responsibility we have to walk with Him. God walked with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden until their relationship and fellowship were broken by sin. But by the grace and atonement for sin through blood sacrifice, God re-established the broken relationship and fellowship with man. This relationship and fellowship are described as walking with God. God reminds us that we must walk with God on His terms, not ours.

Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

<u>Micah 6:8</u> He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

<u>1 John 1:5-7</u> This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth; but if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Let's look at the life of Enoch and learn some things about walking with God.

- **1. The MEANING of our walk** "Enoch walked with God" What does that involve?
 - This walk involves our relationship with God
 - This walk involves our fellowship with God

Walking with God means that we have a relationship with Him and walk daily in fellowship with Him. I think we know the difference between relationship and fellowship if we are married. If you're married, you have a relationship with a husband or a wife, but you may not have close fellowship. First of all you have to enter into a relationship, but then you must cultivate fellowship. It doesn't happen by chance or by accident.

You can only have a relationship with God through His Son Jesus. *John 17:3* And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. You can only have fellowship with God through His Word, prayer, and living by faith and obedience. What does that kind of walk look like?

Before we were saved, we walked according to the course of this world" (Eph. 2:2). After we are saved as God's children, our walk is completely different:

- We walk *in newness of life* (Rom. 6:4)
- We walk by faith, not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7)
- We walk *worthy of our calling* (Eph. 4:1)
- We walk *in love* (Eph. 5:2)

- We walk in light (Eph. 5:8)
- We walk *in wisdom* (Eph. 5:15)
- We walk in the Spirit (Gal. 5:16)
- We walk in good works (Eph. 2:10)
- We walk as Jesus walked (1 John 2:6)

2. The MOTIVATION of our walk – (vs. 22) "After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God"

Apparently the motivation for Enoch's walk with God was the birth of his son, Methuselah. As a father, I can tell you what a humbling experience it is to be a father. When I first found out that we were expecting Sarah, I remember the feeling of total dependence on the Lord. And then when Mary and David came along, I felt that way again. And all through the years of raising children, I felt the need for God's guidance and wisdom. God holds us accountable for our children and our grandchildren. Enoch realized what all fathers realize...little Methuselah would watch him and follow him like a shadow. ("The Little Chap Who Follows Me")

Proverbs 20:7 The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.

3. <u>The MAINTENANCE of our walk</u> – (vs. 22) "Enoch walked with God three hundred years"

Walking with God is based on faith and obedience. Enoch continued his walk with God day by day for 300 years. That's a long time. Every day, he walked consistently with God and confidently in God. If you think it was easier for him to walk with God then that it is for us today, you're wrong. It was a challenge then just as it is today. In those days just before the flood, people were evil. People who lived before the great flood apparently thought God doesn't know how we're living or He doesn't care. That's what people are thinking today... either God doesn't know or He doesn't care.

In Hebrews 11:5, we read that Enoch was a man with a godly testimony. He was a man that "pleased God." If we please God, it doesn't matter whom we displease; and if we displease God it doesn't matter whom we please. The most important thing is life is to please God. How did he please God? By faith. There's no other way to please Him.

*Hebrews 11:5-6** By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

How do we maintain our walk with God?

<u>Colossians 2:6-7</u> As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. How did we receive Christ? By repentance and faith, and that's how we maintain our walk.

4. The MYSTERY of our walk – (vs. 24) "And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him."

Genesis 5 contains a long list of men and their families. Each name is given, the name of his son, and how long he lived, but all of them have one thing in common ("and he died"). But when we come to the life of Enoch, we read something entirely different. Enoch did not die, but he was taken away by God to live with Him forever. Hebrews 11:5 says *By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death...and was not found, because God had translated him.* To be "translated" means to be carried across. God carried Enoch across the threshold of eternity without going through the door of death. God and Enoch travelled instantly from the world of time into eternity.

They looked everywhere for Enoch, but couldn't find him. His family looked for him. His friends looked for him. Enoch is but a picture of what will happens to believers when Christ comes in the rapture. The Bible says the dead in Christ shall rise first; then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. (1 Thess. 4:17)

One day Enoch and God were having sweet fellowship and God said, "Enoch, come with me to my house." Think of that... Enoch was walking with God on earth and the next step he took was in glory. Are you ready to step out of this world and into the next? There is the meaning of our walk... the motivation of our walk... the maintenance of our walk...and the mystery of our walk.

The Bible says that Enoch walked with God and he pleased God. Nothing better could be said about any person than he or she walks with God. Nothing better could be said about any father.

Are you walking with God? Is your life pleasing to God? You begin this walk by repenting of your sins and placing your faith in Christ in faith. Then walk with Him humbly every day in faith and obedience.