

First Church of God
July 28, 2013
Sermon Notes
Pastor Robert G. White

"How To Walk Worthy As Christians
In Today's World"
Psalm 15

¹Lord, who may dwell in your sanctuary? Who may live on your holy hill?

²He whose walk is blameless and who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from his heart

³and has no slander on his tongue, who does his neighbor no wrong and casts no slur on his fellow man,

⁴who despises a vile man but honors those who fear the Lord, who keeps his oath even when it hurts,

⁵who lends his money without usury and does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

He who does these things will never be shaken.

INTRODUCTION

Most historians agree that this Psalm was written when the men brought the ark back to Jerusalem (also the 24th Psalm.) It was on that journey that Uzzah was slain before the Lord for touching the Ark of God, unworthily.

I. OUR **CONDUCT** MUST GLORY GOD.

Psalm 15:1-2...

¹Lord, who may dwell in your sanctuary? Who may live on your holy hill?

²He whose walk is blameless and who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from his heart

HOW DO WE WALK WORTHY?

1. We must be careful about our **associations.**

James 4:4...

"You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God."

Romans 16:17...

"I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned."

2. We must build life long relationships with **Christian** people.

II. OUR **WORK** MUST GLORIFY GOD.

Psalm 15:4-5...

⁴who despises a vile man but honors those who fear the Lord, who keeps his oath even when it hurts,

⁵who lends his money without usury and does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

He who does these things will never be shaken.

"When you observe how little some people work, you wonder how they will know when they have retired."
-Wall Street Journal, Sept. 12, 1977

CHARACTERISTICS OF GOOD WORKERS

1. **DEPENDABLE.** Vs. 4

Quote: *"Relying on God has to begin all over again every day as if nothing yet has been done."*

-C.S. Lewis

2. **Relational – Team Player**

3. **Accountable**

Ecclesiastes 11:1-10...

"Give generously, for your gifts will return to you later. Divide your gifts among many, for in the days ahead you may need much help. When the clouds are heavy, the rains come down; when a tree falls, whether south or north, the die is cast, for there it lies. If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done.

God's ways are as mysterious as the pathway of the wing, and as the manner in which a human spirit is infused into the little body of a baby while it is yet in its mother's womb. Keep on sowing your seed, for you never know which will grow – perhaps it all will. It is a wonderful thing to be alive! If a person lives to be very old, let him rejoice in every day of life, but let him also remember that eternity is far longer, and that everything down here is futile in comparison.

Young man, it's wonderful to be young! Enjoy every minute of it! Do all you want to; take in everything, **but realize that you must account to God for everything you do.** So banish grief and pain, but remember that youth, with a whole life before it, can make serious mistakes."

AM I GLORIFYING GOD IN MY JOB

Read each question and circle the number that most closely describes your situation.

1. Does my work compete with Jesus for first place in my life?
Always 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Never**
2. Have I neglected the essential relationships of life among family or friends because of my work?
Always 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Never**
3. Am I tempted to compromise what I believe in order to give in or keep a position?
Always 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Never**
4. Do I overwork as an escape from greater responsibilities?
Always 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Never**
5. Is my job one in which I can glorify Jesus Christ?
Never 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Always**
6. Do I give God at least 10% of the earnings from my job?
Never 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Always**
7. Do I live a wholesome life, a combination of work and recreation, enrichment and personal growth?
Never 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Always**
8. Do the people with whom I work know that I am a Christian?
Never 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Always**
9. Am I an attractive Christian; one whom others want to know because Christ is in my life?
Never 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Always**
10. Does my employer receive from me honesty and a willingness to work faithfully for my wages?
Never 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Always**
11. Have I claimed my place of employment for the Lord?
Am I a communicator of grace in that place?
Never 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Always**

Add up the number circled from the eleven questions and categorize with this key:

0 – 33 – “It’s me, it’s me, O Lord, standing in need of prayer”
34 – 66 – “Lord Jesus, I long to perfectly whole”
67-100 – “It is well with my soul”
101-110 – “I’ll fly away”

Evaluate your score and spend a few moments confessing to God your weak areas.

Colossians 3:23...

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.”

III. OUR SPEECH MUST GLORIFY GOD.

Psalm 15:5b...

He who does these things will never be shaken.

James 3:2...

“We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check.”

Quote: *“I have often regretted my speech, never my silence.”*

-Publius – Greek Philosopher

Key: One word can change the course of human history. Remember, the issue is **control**, not silence.

BIBLICAL TRUTHS CONCERNING THE TONGUE.

James 3:5-8

1. The tongue contains an awesome **power** for good or evil.

2. No person can control his/her tongue by their own **power**.
3. We must submit our tongue to the **power** of the Holy Spirit.

CHARACTER BUILDING

1. **Honesty** in speech.

Quote: *“If you tell the truth, you don’t have to remember anything”* -Mark Twain

Ephesians 4:15... “...but speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things in to Him who is the head.”

2. **Love** for fellow man.

Psalm 15:3...

“He who does not backbite with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor does he take up a reproach against his friends.”

CONCLUSION: