

“Walk the Talk”
Philippians 1:27
Tuesday Bible Lunch
March 5, 2019

Introduction: In Acts chapter 16, we read about Paul’s vision of a man saying to him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us” (Acts 16:9). It is one of the most interesting chapters in the book of Acts.

- Pau knew what the man in the vision told him to do.
- Paul did not know what the result of his going would be.

Illustration:

1. Paul did not know that a woman named Lydia would hear him preach and become a Christian (Acts 16:14).
2. Paul did not know that he would cast demons out of a young girl and that she would become a believer (Acts 16:16-18).
3. Paul did not know that he and Silas would be beaten by the Romans for preaching the gospel and thrown into prison (Acts 16:19-24).
4. Paul did not know that there was a Roman jailor and his family who needed Jesus (Acts 16:25 - 34).
5. Paul did not know that these events would be the beginning of his starting the church at Philippi.
6. All Paul really knew was that he had a vision to go to Macedonia.

Application: Life is this way. Even when God makes clear to us what we are to do, God does not always make clear to us the events we will experience doing what He tells us to do.

Illustration: God made clear to me in 1980 in Tennessee that I would go to Sulphur Springs, Texas before I ever heard from the church. God made clear to me in October 1989 that I would go to First Baptist Church in Pasadena, Texas. In neither case did God make clear to me the events I would experience at either church.

T.S. The same is true with the book of Philippians. The apostle Paul wrote a letter to the church in Philippi to thank them for a love offering they sent to him in his Roman prison and that letter is the book of Philippians.

- Paul wrote this letter around A.D. 60-62.

- Paul had no idea that almost 2,000 years later people would be blessed and helped reading the letter.
- Our Scripture today is one of those blessings.

Text: Philippians 1:27

“Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ” (ESV).

- The two words in verse 27 after the word “gospel” explain what the gospel is. The words: “OF Christ.”
- If you understand Christ, you understand the gospel.
- The qualities you see in Christ as you read the gospels are the qualities of the gospel.
- Christ is the gospel. Christ is the “good news” which is what the word “gospel” means.
- In Him there are qualities that should be in us.
- One of those qualities is redemption.

1. To conduct yourself worthy of the gospel, you will be a redeeming person.

- The gospel is a gospel of redemption.
- To live a life worthy of the gospel you will be redemptive to others.

Application: This is what forgiveness is about. If you struggle with forgiveness, the best book to help you that I know is Dr. R.T. Kendall’s book entitled *Total Forgiveness*.

T.S. Another quality is truth.

2. To conduct yourself worthy of the gospel, you will be a truthful person.

- Jesus is truth.
- Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth and the life...” (John 14:6).

Application: Our name is Christian. Our conduct should be one of truth.

Conclusion: There is a story about Alexander the Great, whether true or not I do not know. Alexander the Great despised cowardice.

- After one of his battles the story says that Alexander the Great was judging men for their offenses in battle. One by one they stood before him and he would hear their offense and pass sentence.
- Most of the time the sentence would be death.
- Suddenly, a young man, magnificently built, stood before Alexander the Great.
- Alexander the Great asked, "What is the offense?"
- "Cowardice in battle" the answer came.
- Cowardice was what Alexander the Great despised most.
- Alexander looked at the young man and asked, "What is your name?"
- In almost a whisper, the young soldier replied, "Alexander sir."
- Alexander asked more loudly, "What is your name?"
- In almost the same low tone the soldier responded, "Alexander sir."
- For a third time Alexander the Great asked more sternly, "What is your name?"
- For the third time the soldier replied, "Alexander sir."
- Alexander the Great said to the young soldier, "Change your name or change your conduct."

Our name is Christian. Our conduct needs to be the same!