**September 10, 2017 “Walking in a Worthy Manner” Ephesians 4:2-3**

When the Holy Spirit directed Paul to write this letter to the Ephesians, He, the Holy Spirit, intended that the Church should reflect the Glory of Christ to the unsaved world. He, the Holy Spirit directed Paul to lay out all the blessings that are ours in Christ Jesus in the first three chapters of this letter or book as we would call it. A synopsis of the blessings bestowed on us is found in chapter 1 verses 3-12.

Now in chapter 4 and through the end of this letter, Paul “begs” us to “walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called”.

When we were setting up the Osseo Community Church, we wanted to have a logo for this church established and the logo that we chose was a scale which was shown to be in balance. The scale did not lean to the right or the left but rather was centered.

There are two schools of thought within Christianity. One is the school of a Calvinistic bent which is dedicated to the sovereignty of God. Some of the verses used to support that view would be verses like this; “you did not choose Me but I chose you”. And, “He chose us in Him, before the foundation of the world”.

On the other hand, we have the free will crowd who are often referred to as Armenians which use verses like this; “choose you this day whom you will serve”. And, “Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how often would I have gathered you in like a hen gathers her chicks but you would not”.

Now we used this scale as a symbol to not fall off into one camp or the other but rather to recognize that the two are not diametrically opposed to one another but that both views do meet somewhere in the mind of God for His Eternal Glory.

Interestingly, within the phrase “walking worthy” is the connotation of balance. In other words, how do we as Christians, knowing all the blessings bestowed on us as believers balance our lives as we live or “walk” in this fallen world?

1. Ephesians 4:2-3
	1. 5 steps laid out
		1. Humility
		2. Gentleness
		3. Patience
		4. Showing tolerance
		5. Preserving unity
2. Humility
	1. John Wesley
		1. Romans nor classical Greek
			1. Had any word for “humility”
			2. Because humility was despised
	2. Consider Christ
		1. “I am meek and lowly in heart” Matthew 11:29
			1. Born in a barn
			2. Never owned a house
			3. Only thing He owned were His clothes
			4. Killed between two thieves
			5. Buried in a borrowed grave
		2. I John 2:6… “walk in the same manner”
			1. Is that what we hear from most TV preachers?
3. What does the Bible have to say?
	1. Proverbs 16:18… goeth before destruction
	2. Isaiah 14:12-14… first sin
		1. 5 times… “I will”
	3. Why is pride a sin?
		1. It always takes the glory from God and places it on man/you
		2. Isaiah 2:10-11… men
			1. Result… Isaiah 2:12-19
			2. Question… Isaiah 2:22
		3. Women are not exempt
			1. Isaiah 3:16-24
4. All humility
	1. Pasha in the Greek… meaning total aspect of our lives
	2. Proverbs 15:33… before honor comes humility
	3. Proverbs 22:4
	4. I Peter 5:6… in due time He will lift you up
		1. Some time on earth
		2. Resurrection of the body
	5. Luke 18:9-14
		1. Pharisee and the tax collector
	6. Romans 12:3
		1. How do I do this?
			1. Always view yourself honestly
				1. Do not lie to yourself about how great you are

Embrace your humanity

Learn to laugh at your mistakes

Windshield of Yukon

* + - * 1. Do not compare yourself to others… you will always be better than they are
			1. Hold Christ up as your standard for life
				1. Philippians 2:3-7
			2. Get a vision of God for your life
				1. Isaiah 6:1-7
				2. Luke 7:28

John 3:26-31

Why has the Holy Spirit revealed all this to us today? For the same reason, He gave this message to the Ephesians… to “preserve unity in the bond of peace”