



# CITY CHURCH

## City Planning Participant Guide

### “Walking with God”

#### I. Where Did this Come From?

- a. Scripture – “Enoch walked faithfully with God, then he was no more” (Gen. 5:24)
- b. Reaction to Christian nominalism and its impact on southern church culture
- c. Reaction to theological liberalism and its impact on “academic” cities
- d. Two ditches: (1) theological knowledge/understanding without action (2) action without theological knowledge/understanding
- e. As we’ll see, “walking with God” involves both sides of the coin.

#### II. We’re Redeemed

- a. Our state apart from Christ
  - i. Bondage to sin and despair – Rom. 1-3; Eph. 2:1-3
- b. Our position in Christ
  - i. Set free from the bondage of sin and thus experience the truest freedom possible – Rom 6
  - ii. Law not our means of salvation – Gal. 5:1-6.
  - iii. This is all by God’s grace/mercy – Eph. 2:4-9
- c. We live accordingly
  - i. Romans 12:1-21 (therefore, in view of God’s mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice – Rom. 12:1)
  - ii. Walking in sin vs. walking in good works – Eph. 2:1-4 vs. Eph. 2:10
  - iii. Everyone is walking – are you walking with God or with idols?
  - iv. Other passages – Gal. 5:16-26; Eph. 4:1-3

#### III. We’re Restored

- a. Delighting in and enjoying God
  - i. ...who created us – Gen. 1:26-2:25
  - ii. ...who loves us – 1 John 4:19
- b. Life reorientation – we follow and please God

- i. See scripture references in part II
- ii. We are a pleasing aroma to the Lord as we offer our lives as living sacrifices – 2 Cor. 2:15; see also Lev. 1:13

**IV. What It Looks Like to “Walk with God”**

- a. For discussion!

## City Planning – Week 2 Discussion

### “Walking with God”

#### Passage: Ephesians 2:1-10

[1] And you were dead in the trespasses and sins [2] in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—[3] among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. [4] But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, [5] even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved—[6] and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, [7] so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. [8] For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, [9] not a result of works, so that no one may boast. [10] For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

#### Questions:

1. What ideas/thoughts first came to mind when you heard the “walking with God” portion of the City Church tagline?
2. Have your ideas/thoughts changed at all based on the teaching session? If so, how?
3. If someone asked you, “What does it mean to be walking with God?” – how would you answer that question?
4. How should we think about the connection between our redemption and our deeds? Is there a connection at all?
5. What “ditches” were described in the teaching session? Which of the two ditches do you identify with? Generally speaking, do you think the Gainesville community falls into one of these ditches? Both?
6. If you’re in one of these ditches – how might you go about changing?
7. How might you go about helping others who are stuck in one of these ditches?

## **“The Rocking Chair”**

### **City Planning – Week 2 (Walking with God)**

#### **Additional Texts:**

- Deut. 6:1-9; Rom. 12; Gal. 5; Phil 2:1-11

#### **Sermons:**

- (Text only) John Owen – “Is Humble Walking with God our Great Concernment?”
  - <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/owen/sermons.iv.xii.html>
- Knowing God – Part 1 (Jerry Bridges)
  - [http://thegospelcoalition.org/listen.php?file=http://s3.amazonaws.com/tgc-audio/bridges\\_jerry/bridges-knowing\\_god\\_1.mp3](http://thegospelcoalition.org/listen.php?file=http://s3.amazonaws.com/tgc-audio/bridges_jerry/bridges-knowing_god_1.mp3)
- Knowing God – Part 2 (Jerry Bridges)
  - [http://thegospelcoalition.org/listen.php?file=http://s3.amazonaws.com/tgc-audio/bridges\\_jerry/bridges-knowing\\_god\\_2.mp3](http://thegospelcoalition.org/listen.php?file=http://s3.amazonaws.com/tgc-audio/bridges_jerry/bridges-knowing_god_2.mp3)

#### **Books:**

- “Spiritual Depression” – Martyn Lloyd-Jones (deals with what it looks like to walk with God when you’re in a spiritual ditch)
- “Desiring God” – John Piper

#### **For Your Consideration:**

- How would you counsel a depressed Christian who feels as though he/she isn’t really “experiencing” God like he/she wants to?