



The Mission Trail

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"LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST." — JOHN 4:35

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Walking With Christ

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Good morning. This is THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast of Guthrie, Okla. coming your way once again with a short gospel message. This is Willie Murphey speaking. Listen to this scripture reading from I Thes. chapter 2 and verse 12, "That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory." Perhaps you realize as this new year is swiftly moving on in the month of Jan. that we are travelers and of course we travel this way only once. We cannot come back and walk again the steps which we leave today. But walking is a symbol of traveling. I remember as a child how long the distance seemed when I walked from school to home. Some people like to have others walk with them and the way doesn't seem so lonely. I hope that you have found this friend of mine which I want to tell you about, the Jesus of the Bible, who will walk by your side from morning until night. But notice that the scripture says, "That ye walk worthy of God". Now God will be pleased to walk with you if you want to walk with him, but there are some requirements.

I John 2:6 says this, "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked." Therefore as Christ walked so we should also walk. In other words he is our example and in I Pet. 2:21 we find this verse, "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps". Let us be like the little boy who endeavors to follow his father's long footsteps in the snow.

Now here is what Jesus said concerning how we should walk. This verse is found in Matt. 16:24, "Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." I believe that he wants us to follow close by his side and not afar off. In speaking of the disciples who forsook the

Lord when Jesus was taken to be tried and crucified, it is written of Peter that he followed afar off. Do you suppose Peter thought he might be classified with the Lord if he was too near him? Do you suppose he was ashamed to be seen with him? Oh yes, he followed, but it was a long way from him. He couldn't have much communion with the Lord in that far off place. It is also written of the prodigal son that he gathered his goods together and took his journey into a far country. Dear ones, let us not follow afar off. But rather may we be like John who leaned on his breast and had sweet fellowship and communion with his Lord.

Here is another verse that might be a little hard for some folks to accept, but it is the truth because it is what Jesus said, "So likewise, whosoever

he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:33 Now surely that would include all wrong doing and sinful things. They should be abandoned once and for all. If you really want the Lord to walk with you, let me give you this verse in Micah 6:8, which is really the secret of walking with God, "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?"

There are 3 things here. The first one is to do justly. This would bring in the golden rule, or the scripture which says, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets." Matt. 7:12 Now this does not mean for you to take advantage of another before they have an opportunity to take advantage of you. Some folks get that scripture all twisted. They practice it in a twisted manner too.

The next thing to remember from that verse in Micah is "to love mercy". Ask yourself the question, "Do I love mercy, or do I want revenge upon my enemies?" Listen to this example which David left for us when he came in contact with Saul who was bitterly opposed to David and was seeking to destroy him. Here is what David did. "So David and Abishai came to the people by night: and, behold, Saul lay sleeping within the trench, and his spear stuck in the ground at his bolster: but Abner and the people lay round about him. Then said Abishai to David, God hath delivered thine enemy into thine hand this day: now therefore let me smite him, I pray thee, with the spear even to the earth at once, and I will not smite him the second time. And

David said to Abishai, Destroy him not; for who can stretch forth his hand against the Lord's anointed, and be guiltless? David said furthermore, As the Lord liveth, the Lord shall smite him; for his day shall come to die; or he shall descend into battle, and perish. The Lord forbid that I should stretch forth mine hand against the Lord's anointed: but, I pray thee, take thou now the spear that is at his bolster, and the cruse of water, and let us go. So David took the spear and the cruse of water from Saul's bolster; and they gat them away, and no man saw it, nor knew it, neither awaked: for they were all asleep; because a deep sleep from the Lord was fallen upon them." I Sam. 26:7-12 Now if David didn't have a love for mercy do you know what he would probably have told Abishai. He would have just told him, "Yes, go ahead and stick that spear right through old King Saul. He has been a bitter enemy of mine and I don't like him anyway." But he didn't do that because he had a love for mercy and a respect for even his enemies. Jesus said when he was being crucified, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." And the first Christian martyr, Stephen, said when he was being stoned to death, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

Then the third and by no means the least important part of this scripture in Micah says, "To walk humbly with thy God." We should realize that we don't know everything. We cannot always see far enough ahead to know what is best. And if we are following the Lord then we should be willing for him to lead us lest we go astray. Rom. 13:13 puts it this way, "Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying." And

Eph. 5:15 says it in this manner, "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise".

Another thing which I don't want you to forget is this. You will likely receive a lot of advice. It might be from your closest friends and it may be that their advice would not be the best to follow. Perhaps they don't understand spiritual things. Listen to this verse from Psa. 1:1, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful". If you are walking like that, listen to this promise from John 8:12, "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

Then here is one more verse I want to leave with you before I go, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." I John 1:7 So the question is this, "Are you abiding in the Lord according to all the knowledge and understanding you have? Are you moving up and measuring up as he shines the light on your pathway? If so, you are walking with God. If not, then you are walking in darkness and how great is that darkness when once a person turns his back on the light."

Let us pray,

Our Father in heaven,

Help us to walk humbly with the Lord when things go well and when reverses come. Keep us for thyself alone and direct our lives into the fullness of thy light. Bless each listener of the broadcast and to thee we will give the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen

Thanks, friends, for taking the time to listen. Will you pray for us as we pray for you? And if we may be of further help to you, write us by addressing your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla. We appreciate your co-operation in helping us maintain this work of faith.

Here now is a song, "Take the name of Jesus with you". The singers are Lynn Carver, Arnett Carver, Troy Gentry, and Edgar Martens.

Friends, be with us again next Sunday at this same time on this same station for another gospel message. And now until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying may God's richest blessings be with each and every one of you and a very cheerful good-bye!

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Testimonies

From Calif.: "I intended to write before now, but was gone before Christmas visiting our children and families, and got behind in my writing. . . Keep praying for us. I often pray for you and the work you are doing. We sure are having lots of rain, will sure be glad to have some sunshine again."

--Sis. Hazel Savage

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From Calif.: "Hope these few lines reach you when you are going forth for the Lord. Oh, isn't it wonderful to know the Lord and to know what you must do to please him, such as having faith in the Lord and trusting in him. For if we do not have faith and trust him we cannot please him and we can not expect much help from him, for he says that he will supply all our needs, but we must trust God, not man, to get those needs he speaks of. . . May the good Lord bless you and your work for the Lord."

--Bro. Victor S. Reel

From La. : "We have been wanting to write to you for sometime, but have just never taken the time to put our thoughts into action. We hope this finds all of you well in body and happy in the Lord. The Lord has been so very good to us and we do thank Him for all He means to us. We thank the Lord how He has kept all of us so well this winter. We have had very little cold in our family and the Lord has protected us from the flu this winter. We appreciate so much the privilege we have of trusting completely in the Lord, for everything. . . Want to let you know that we do enjoy the Mission Trail and hope the Lord will richly reward you for your labors. May the Lord bless and keep you in the center of His will. Pray for us that we will be the example the Lord wants us to be."

--Randal, June Flynn, and family

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From La. : "We are thankful again today for God's many, many blessings to us. It seems so little to just say we thank Him for truly He has done so very much for us. We're also very thankful for each one who is doing what he can for the Lord. Many times we have thought about you dear ones and prayed for God's rich blessings upon you. As we grow older, we realize how blessed we are to know our saviour; and it makes us rejoice when we see the efforts different ones are putting forth to spread this precious truth. I have meant for some time to return this coupon to you, but have forgotten to get it in the mail. We do want to remain on your mailing list--we enjoy the little paper very much. Just before Christmas, our younger boy, Bert, had a very bad ear infection which looked like mastoiditis. His ear was swollen 'til it stuck straight out from his head and looked very bad. Naturally we were very concerned, but our only thoughts were to put it in the

Lord's hands which we did. We called some of the saints to agree with us in prayer, and he was healed very soon. We are not worthy of the rich blessings he has bestowed upon us. Many times I'm brought to tears when I try to count our blessings, for each one means so much to us. Please pray for us that we will be what God wants us to be. We realize that we will never make it on a profession alone, but a deep consecration and dying out to ourselves with much watching and praying is what He requires of us. Enclosed is a small offering to help in your work."

--Gerald and Connie Flynn

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From Ore. : "Thank you so much for the Mission Trail for the past year. Enclosed is small offering. I enjoy the paper so much each week and keep informed of the saints and some of my relatives through the paper. This past year was a good season for the wild choke cherries and apples up in this country. It is so cold here in the winter and then usually we have a killing frost each month during the summer too, so we appreciate any fruit we can raise here. The Lord has been very good to us."

--Lucille Trimble

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From Ore. : "I do want to help every way I can to spread this precious gospel. I feel time is closing in on all of us to work for him. I know my time can't be long at the longest. I will be 89 yrs. old in April. The Lord has given me a long life to work for him. I don't want to waste any of it. I do love to give to the Lord's work. I know it is needed and I wonder if all the saints are doing all they can. Oh! how we ought to be laying up treasures in heaven instead of trying to get fixed up here for this is not a lasting home. We are just on a short journey here."

--Sis. O. K. Myers

From Miss.: "I am still saved and mean to be true at any cost. The Lord is so good to me. . . I haven't been well lately but am better. Please pray for me."
--Sis. Novella Pugh

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From Okla.: "May the Lord bless every effort that you all put forth to his glory, and our good. I am praying for you all. Pray much for me soul and body. Your sister," --Mary May

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From Calif.: "I have been able lately to go to morning service part time in Oakland. We sure have a wonderful time in the Lord's worship service there. . . Pray for me as I do for those over us in the Lord, Love,"

--Bro. Guy Littrell

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From Idaho: What a privilege we have in trusting the living God, who is able to do all things. . . I am still here in Idaho living in a trailer house in my son's yard. I am feeling pretty good but can hardly get around at all. I guess arthritis is the trouble. . .

--Sis. Hattie Gibson

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From Ark.: "Greetings of love in the name of our precious Saviour. Trust all with you are well in body and happy in spirit. Oscar does pretty well but I (Margie) not so well. I took a serious pain in my back last Thursday. When I was down I couldn't get up with out help. When I was up I couldn't get down without help and couldn't walk without help and to try to do those things with help pains were almost unbearable. At present Wednesday of this week I am much improved. I can get around by myself but don't have the strength I need. Please remember me when you pray. . . Please continue to send Mission Trail. It is quite an inspiration, keeps me in touch with the big family that I am an heir to." --The Walls

From Ariz.: "We're thankful and glad for being saved and very much encouraged to press on. . . Please remember me in your prayers."

--Sis. Annie Peete

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From Kansas: "Just a few lines to let you all know I am still praying for you and the broadcast. The saints are the best people there are. I am happy God made me one." --Sis. Isabella Williams

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From S. C.: "If it ever was a time God's saints need to work hard it is now. It seems like the devil is trying to hedge around God's saints. . . so we need to be on watch. Jesus may come at any time." --Bro. Eddie Driggers

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From Mich.: "We are still on the strait and narrow way. We are being blessed daily by our heavenly father. Yes, we would like the Mission Trail to keep coming. We enjoy reading it very much. Also enclosed is a small offering for the Lord's work. Christian love,"

--Bro. and Sis. Milford Parsons

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From Ind.: "I love the dear Lord and want to honor him with my life until he calls me from this life. I have been thinking of the time in 1921 at a little church in the hills of Kentucky--they were singing a song that went like this: We must sow righteous seed for the reaping which must come for everyone, then we will meet in that day and hear Jesus say, come ye blessed, a crown you have won. Oh, I am so glad I ever surrendered my life to the Lord. I love the dear Lord and all his dear children and want to do all I can to help in the cause." --Sis. Stella Lee

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Another year has now set in,
Oh! who will take it by the hand,
A new and upward race begin
And leave your folly all behind.

