

Prayer Walking

"Arise, walk about the land through its length and breadth; for I will give it to you." ~Gen 13:17

Recently a doctor told me to eat better and start walking. So I did. Twenty pounds and many miles later, I was told I was healthy again. So I started walking with God.

Now let me explain something. I was walking with God before. Just not on the trails, roads, and other avenues that I now walk.

If we add prayer to the walk, we get a wonderful experience. With that addition, we no longer are walking alone. Then we walk with each person we encounter, with each house, neighborhood, town, and spot on the earth where we walk.

I have been reading about prayer walking for some time. Now when I walk, I pray for the community as it comes into view. This is a totally new way of walking, and praying, for me, and I rather enjoy it.

Rick Warren says that prayer walking, "is putting legs to your prayers. Instead of sitting in your house praying, it puts you into the community where the people are living. This allows you to see the area that you're praying for and be more intentional in your prayers. You may see kids toys in a yard and know to pray for the kids at that house, you may see recreational items in a yard and pray specifically for safety and protection. Every house you walk by you can pray that God will bring them closer to Him and into a relationship with Him."

How long should we walk? We must walk our entire lives. Not just with our feet on the ground, but with our attitudes, our actions, and our worship.

"Enoch walked with God," the scriptures say, "three hundred years after he became the father of Methuselah, and he had other sons and daughters." As a father, a grandfather, and a great grandfather, he walked with God.

Don't we want that said of us when we leave this earth for heaven? That we walked with God? Even more, don't we want to help other people, to know God and walk with him so much that many more walk with him because of us? This should be the desire of every Christian.

Sometimes when we walk, we will find ourselves in unfamiliar surroundings. We must look with spiritual eyes to see what God is showing us. We can make life so complicated we cannot see the simple, plain truth that is right before us.

Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson decide to go walking in the hills. As they lie down for the night, the detective says, "Watson, look up into the darkness and tell me what you see..." "Why, I can see millions of stars," Watson replies. "And what does that tell you?" Holmes inquires, with a long draw on his pipe. "Many things, my dear Holmes," comes the reply. "Astronomically, it tells me that there are billions of galaxies in the cosmos.

"Theologically, it tells me that God is truly great and that we are nothing but insignificant beings.
"Meteorologically, it tells me that we will have a good chance of a beautiful day tomorrow.
"But I doubt that any of these opinions match the powers of your deduction," continues Watson,
"What, pray, does it tell you?"
Holmes gives a sideways glance at his friend and replies, "My dear Watson, somebody's nicked the bloody tent."

You don't have to be Sherlock Holmes to figure out that most of the world is outside the church. Any amateur detective can discover that there are so many that are lost, with the wrong priorities, and need to find their way. They may not realize that the tent is missing, and that they need to find it straightway.

We concentrate on things of the world which may make us happy for a while, and are blinded by the light of many things other than God. When we finally realize our mistake, we begin to walk with God. We find the road. We find Jesus who is the way.

God has described this road for thousands of years. Some find it. Some will never find it. "A highway will be there, a roadway, And it will be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean will not travel on it, But it will be for him who walks that way, And fools will not wander on it." Isaiah 3:8

An explorer was walking along one day when he came to the narrowest part of the River Severn in England. Seeing another person on the other bank, he called out, 'Hey, how do I get to the other side?'

The other explorer looked carefully along the bank to the left, then carefully along the bank to the right, thought a bit, then called back, 'You are on the other side.'

We as Christians want to find that other side, which ultimately is heaven. But along the way are adventures like crossing the Dead Sea on dry land, walking to lands God leads us that we have no idea of beforehand.

**“Those who walk with God, always reach their destination.”
— Henry Ford**