

August 22/23, 2009
Focus Together on Living What's True

What we need the most to get through dark, difficult, and discouraging times is a tight relationship with Jesus Christ and with other believers.

We get both through "Light Walking". Light Walkers live in humble, honest transparency with God and others and together do what is right in His sight.

1 John 1:7

Today's Timeless Truth:

Light Walkers help one another live and love what's true even when it is hard to do. Light Walkers are "Tough Lovers".

1 John 2:3-11

Five "A's" for Loving One Another

1. Attention: Galatians 6:10 – *"When we have the opportunity to help anyone, we should do it. But we should give special attention to those who are in the family of believers."*

2. Acceptance: Romans 15:7 – *"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."*

3. Affirmation: Philippians 4:8 – *"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."*

4. Appreciation: 1 Thessalonians 5:12 – *"Now, brothers and sisters, we ask you to appreciate those who work hard among you, who lead you in the Lord and teach you."*

5. Affection: Romans 12:10 – *"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves."*

1) Light Walkers help one another forgive other Christians who have hurt them deeply.

1 John 2:9-11; Ephesians 4:31-32

2) Light Walkers help one another live victoriously for Christ at every stage of their Christian maturity.

1 John 2:12-14; 1 John 4:4; 1 John 5:4-5

3) Light Walkers help one another love their Heavenly Father and His eternal kingdom more than the fleeting pleasures of this world.

1 John 2:15-17

4) Light Walkers help one another hold to Christ's exclusive claim as the only Savior as they look forward together to His triumphant return.

1 John 2:18-29; John 14:6

Today's Timeless Point:

Light Walkers help one another live and love what is true even when it is hard to do. Light Walkers are Tough Lovers!

Discussion Questions:

1. Share a time you were a 'tough lover' for Christ. Have you wrestled with hurt, even hatred toward another Christian? How did Christ help you resolve it?

2. Are you living victoriously in Christ? Is there an area of your life you feel defeated in? How are you doing with your battle in loving God more than the pleasures of this world?

3. Is it hard for you to hold out Christ as the only way to God to your friends or co-workers? How could we help each other look forward more to Christ's glorious return?