

WALKING WITH GOD – Becoming Men of Intimacy, Conviction, and Consistency

(Men's Devotion & International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church)

Scripture Foundation

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If any of you wants to be My follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow Me." – Matthew 16:24 (NLT)

INTRODUCTION – When God Defines a Man

What if the true measure of a man isn't in his achievements, wealth, or status – but in **his walk with God?**

Our world tells men that success is about what you build, how much you own, or how many people follow you. But heaven measures success differently. Heaven asks, *"Who are you walking with?"*

The Bible gives us the story of a man who lived in one of the darkest times in history – a time

filled with wickedness, violence, and rebellion. Yet in that chaos, one man's relationship with God stood out so much that death itself couldn't touch him. His name was **Enoch**.

“Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him.” — **Genesis 5:24 (NIV)**

When Enoch was born, his father Jared gave him a prophetic name. *Enoch* means **“dedicated”** or **“trained up.”** His name was a declaration of destiny — that his life would be marked by consecration and devotion to God.

Enoch's life was not about performance — it was about **proximity**. He didn't build cities or win battles. He simply *walked with God*. And that walk became his legacy.

Today, as we join the global body of Christ in marking the **International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church**, we remember that there are men and women around the world — modern-day Enochs — who walk closely with God in the

face of imprisonment, torture, or even death. They carry their crosses daily, refusing to deny Jesus. Their courage calls us to walk faithfully, no matter the cost.

+ DENYING SELF – A DIFFERENT WAY TO WALK

When Jesus said, *“If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way...”* He was describing the very lifestyle that Enoch, Noah, and every true disciple lives – a life where surrender wins over self.

Enoch lived in a corrupt, godless world, yet he chose a different path. He walked in **fellowship instead of conformity, faith instead of compromise, and obedience instead of opinion.**

“Enoch lived in close fellowship with God.” –
Genesis 5:22 (NLT)

“Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.”

– Galatians 5:24 (NIV)

To walk with God, we must first **deny ourselves**. It's not losing who you are – it's discovering who you were always meant to be.

Persecuted believers around the world live this truth every day. They deny themselves the safety of silence, the comfort of compromise, and the convenience of blending in. Their faith costs them – but their reward is eternal.

Men's Reflection

What is God asking you to deny so that you can walk more closely with Him?

Prayer – Denying Self

Lord, crucify every desire in me that competes with Your purpose. Teach me to say “no” to the world and “yes” to You every day. Strengthen believers who daily deny themselves for Your name – fill them with endurance, comfort, and victory.

Prophetic Declarations

- I choose God's way over my way!
- I walk by conviction, not convenience!
- My obedience will inspire others to stand for Christ!

TAKING UP THE CROSS – COSTLY OBEDIENCE

Walking with God always comes with a cost. Enoch didn't blend in with his culture – he stood against it.

“Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied... ‘The Lord is coming... to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds.’” – **Jude 1:14–15 (NIV)**

He spoke truth even when it wasn't popular. He carried his cross long before Calvary.

Our persecuted brothers and sisters embody this daily. Many are imprisoned, tortured, or executed – yet they endure with joy, singing

hymns in their cells, preaching in secret gatherings, and forgiving their persecutors.

Their courage exposes our excuses.

“Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.” – **1 Corinthians 16:13**
(NIV)

Men’s Reflection

Where is God asking you to stand firm – in your home, your workplace, or your personal purity?

Prayer – For Boldness and the Persecuted Church

Father, fill me with courage to carry my cross with joy. Strengthen those who bear heavy crosses around the world – in prisons, refugee camps, and underground churches. Cover them with Your presence, and may their faith never fail.

Prophetic Declarations

- I carry my cross with honor and endurance!
- I will not bow to culture — I will stand for Christ!
- The persecuted church is upheld by the power of God!

FOLLOWING GOD — CONSISTENT INTIMACY

Walking with God isn't a moment — it's a **movement**. It's a lifelong journey of friendship and intimacy.

“Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.”
— James 4:8 (ESV)

Enoch didn't walk with God for a season — he walked with Him for 300 years. That's **consistency born of love**.

Persecuted believers don't endure through willpower — they endure through **relationship**. When everything is taken from them — their homes, their freedom, even their families — they still have Jesus. And Jesus is enough.

When men walk with God:

- His whisper becomes clearer than the world's noise.
- Our homes become altars of His presence.
- Our hearts burn for the lost and the suffering Church.

Men's Reflection

Am I walking with God daily – or only inviting Him to walk with me on my terms?

Prayer – For Intimacy and Endurance

Lord, teach me to walk with You daily. Make Your voice familiar, Your presence irresistible, and Your will my greatest pursuit. Strengthen believers who walk with You in secret – give them courage, comfort, and deep joy.

Prophetic Declarations

- My relationship with God is my greatest treasure!

- I walk with Jesus daily – not occasionally!
- The persecuted Church walks in supernatural peace and victory!

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN MEN WALK WITH GOD

When men truly walk with God, everything changes:

- **Heaven draws closer.** God's presence fills their homes and workplaces.
- **Faith multiplies.** Other men find courage to walk boldly.
- **Families follow.** Wives flourish and children grow strong in faith.
- **Generations shift.** The curse is broken and legacy begins.

And when the Church walks with God – even through persecution – the world sees Jesus. The blood of martyrs still waters the seeds of revival.

And when your walk is done, like Enoch, you'll hear God whisper,

"We've been walking together so long – let's

finish this journey at My house.”

PRAYER POINTS FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

1 Protection and Strength

“The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear?” – Psalm 27:1 (NIV)

Lord, be a shield around every believer facing persecution. Hide them in Your presence and strengthen their faith.

2 Faith and Endurance

“We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed... struck down, but not destroyed.” – 2 Corinthians 4:8–9 (NIV)

Father, sustain their courage. Let their endurance testify of Your power.

3 Peace and Comfort

“The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts.” – Philippians 4:7 (NIV)

Holy Spirit, comfort those who have lost homes

or loved ones. Fill them with divine peace and unshakable hope.

4 Salvation for Persecutors

“Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” – **Matthew 5:44 (NIV)**

Lord, transform hearts of persecutors. Let many Saul's become Paul's through encounters with Jesus.

5 Revival Through Suffering

Lord, let the testimony of the persecuted church ignite revival in nations. May their sacrifice bear fruit in multitudes turning to Christ.

FINAL CHARGE TO MEN

Men of God — walk differently.

Walk in **purity** when the world chooses compromise.

Walk with **conviction** when silence feels safer.

Walk in **intimacy** when distraction screams louder.

And walk in **solidarity** with those who suffer for

Christ.

Walk with God until your steps sound like His.

Walk until your children follow your footprints.

Walk until heaven says of you,

“This man walked with God – and Heaven took notice.”

