

IS YOUR TALK IN CONFLICT WITH YOUR WALK?
ATTITUDE MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

If we live in the spirit let us, also walk in the spirit. Galatians 5: 25
“When I want to do good, I don’t, and when I try not to do wrong, I do it anyway” Romans 7:19

There is a paradox at the heart of the CHRISTIAN FAITH - THAT WE ARE MOST FREE WHEN WE ARE TRIED TO Christ and surrender to the Spirit. Paradox by definition means: A statement that may or may not be true.

Conflict: sharp disagreement as of interest or ideas incompatible at war/ a fight.

Liberty: is freedom from something. A too free or impertinent action or attitude.

In marriage, these conflicts are called irreconcilable differences. Something that cannot be brought into agreement, and is incompatible.

AMERICANS LOVE TO CELEBRATE HOLIDAYS, ESPECIALLY INDEPENDENCE DAY, TO FLAUNT THEIR FREEDOM BEFORE THE WHOLE WORLD.

THOMAS JEFFERSON’S BOLD ASSERTION THAT EACH INDIVIDUAL HAS AN “...INALIENABLE RIGHT...” TO “...LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS...” STILL SOUNDS SWEET TO FREEDOM-LOVING EARS.

DESPITE THE IMPERFECTIONS AND FOIBLES OF OUR POLITICAL SYSTEM, WE ENJOY TREMENDOUS ECONOMIC FREEDOM, POLITICAL FREEDOM, RELIGIOUS FREEDOM PERSONAL FREEDOM AND COMMUNAL FREEDOM. BUT WE MUST BE CAREFUL THAT WE DON’T DEFINE THE FREEDOMS THAT WE ENJOY SO MUCH AS FREEDOM FROM...FORGETTING THAT THE REAL TEST OF FREEDOM’S VALUE IS HOW WE USE IT TO BE FREE.

Paul’s caution to the Galatians in this week’s epistle text likewise reminds us that sometimes our greatest liberation can be found in our commitments; in our freedoms to. There is our freedom to gather for the benefit of others, our freedom to love and serve each other and our freedom to express our

feelings, concerns, hopes, and aspirations, for our community, neighbors and friends.

Remember that the same philosophers and salesmen who boldly announced this country's *Declaration of Independence*, were also the ones who worked long and hard to craft our constitution, which is a document, that sculpts our freedom along with the prescribed guidelines and responsibilities necessary to make freedom work. Our freedom to govern, to serve, to defend, to protect, to honor and to be loyal.

Yes, the Fourth of July is a good time to celebrate the paradox at the center of the Christian faith; we are most free when we are most bonded. Through Christ's supreme example of freedom in service, we all become the freest when we bind ourselves to Jesus Christ. That is why Jesus has been called "Omnipotence in bonds". He freely divested himself of his divinity so that he could make the ultimate sacrifice for our sake and for our freedom. "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich yet for your sakes he became poor, that you through his poverty might become rich." II Corinth. 8:9.

We must make sure that we do not confuse this freely offered liberty for a license to become free from what is righteous. The long list of what Paul calls in Galatians "freshly works" is what results when we let our freedom to...become freedom from.

Freedom to love becomes...fornication - An act between unmarried partners.
Freedom to worship becomes...idolatry - Worship of a person or thing
Freedom to serve becomes... factions. - Working against the wishes of the group.

Freedom to inquire becomes...enmity - Hostility, hate

Freedom to discuss becomes...quarrels - A dispute or cause there of

Freedom to disagree becomes...dissension - A disagreement

Freedom to thrive becomes...envy - Desire for something someone else has.

"Not living in the Holy Spirits power" Galatians 5: 19-20.

The political and personal freedom we celebrate every Independence Day always remind us that with freedom comes responsibility. For our freedom to "work" we must be good citizens - we must vote, pay taxes, obey the laws, respect property, be loyal and keep the peace. The freedom we enjoy

every day of our lives as Christians demands of us only two things - faithfulness and love. Despite the long list of fleshly “works” verse spiritual “fruits” Paul numbers he takes care to preface these itemizations with a single reminder: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Gal. 5:14 But they are forgiveness, justification, eternal life and glorification. IICorinth.8: 9

In looking at this topic, “Is your talk in conflict with your walk? Attitude makes the difference .WE are examining Paul’s letter to the Galatians’ after a report had surfaced in Rome that the brethren had begun to slide back into the Judaic belief system and worship. They were being infiltrated by the false teachings, confused about what to accept and believe because Paul had left a brother who while he was learned did not have the answers they needed to continue their walk in the way of Christ.

Therefore, Paul met the danger of losing the faithful by writing and outlining the very role of Christ Jesus, our Redeemer, and head of the mystical body the church. And in so doing he drew up the rules for an ideal Christian life, reminding them that their walk was to be where Christ is preeminent because “He is true GOD of true GOD,” in His divine nature, the only begotten of the Father, that he occupies the privileged position of the first born. Heb. 4: 15

That all creatures he made even the angels out of nothing, and He maintains them in existence. As GOD/man, HE redeemed us by shedding His blood for us on the cross. “He is the beginning of a new life of grace in us, the firstborn of the new creation.” Gal. 4: 6

We have heard from Paul, now let us hear from Jesus. “MY kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom was of this, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.” John 18: 36

We as Christians should not be surprised that the world hates us, because the world hated Christ and yes killed him even through he was love. John 3: 16

The nature of man is animal and therefore prone to destruction, and Christ even warned the disciples that a time would come when those who killed them would think that they were doing GOD a favor. What will those who kill you think? Genesis 4: 8 (Caine and Abel)

The idea that after a person accepts Christ everything is alright and they are free to live as if nothing has happened is their life is heretical. {Jude1: 4} Because the acceptance of CHRIST Jesus demands that a change takes place, to do otherwise demeans the grace of GOD. Rom.6: 1-2

Christian liberty is not a license to sin, but rather it is a freedom to do what pleases GOD. “Be not deceived; GOD is not mocked: for whatever a man sows, that shall he also reap. Galatians 6: 7

IS YOUR TALK IN CONFLICT WITH YOUR WALK, YOUR ATTITUDE MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

Search your hearts for anything connected to Sin.

1. What about past abuses? Did you check?
2. What about unresolved grudges? Did you check?
3. What about righteous anger? Did you check?

Or, do you subscribe to the old adage,” I don’t get mad; I just get even. We should love our neighbors, as ourselves. We should have love for all saints. That love should begin with those closest to us and spread outward. Remember you should love the Lord your God, with all of your heart, all of your mind and all of your soul.

How are others affected by our faith, hope and love?
 How do we refresh or discourage other believers?
 What can we do to minister to other believers’ everyday?
 How are you talking?
 Are you walking in darkness or the light?
 Are you abiding in God’s will?

Many people go to church, but they are not saved. They just come for prestige, honor and connection. If I did, I can be buried in a church, they will think that I was a Christian.

However, God knows that you never did accept the brethren, you never did accept Christ, and you never did ask forgiveness. Not my job to say where a person will be going who denies God, his due.

The false teachers claimed that salvation was possible only when arrived at a certain knowledge is important, in and of itself, it is no substitute for faith.

God knows our hearts and has purified it by faith (Acts 15: 8-9), which must be confessed. Those who are redeemed have a confidence in their hearts that only God can give. Then the Holy Spirit testifies with our spirit that we are God's Children Romans 8: 16. That our talk and walk are one. I ask is your talk in harmony with your walk. If it is not you will need to change your attitude. More prayer, more faith, more power.

A great preacher, Pastor of the 20th century, Dr. Charles Spurgeon said about faith. "A little faith will bring your soul to heaven, 'but', great faith will bring heaven to your soul." "I say amen", and all of God's children said amen.

Thank God! Thank God! Thank You God for a word from on High,
delivered by your Holy Spirit. Amen! Amen!

Remember Paul's words, we must stir up the spiritual fruits of Love, Joy, Peace, Long-suffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, and Temperance. They will see you through after you answer God's question. Is your talk in conflict with your walk? Attitude makes a difference. Jesus had no conflict with his talk or walk.