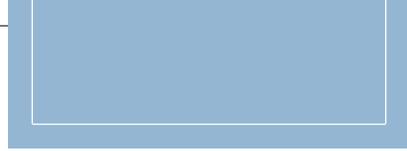




**March Bible Study Series:
Walking With God**



Lesson Ten

Walking In Balance

Balance

Balance is putting into action those things that are God-centered and God-inspired and refusing to do those that are selfish and unhelpful.



Keeping Our Spiritual Balance

Ephesians 4:13-14, Until we all...become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming.



**God's plan is for each believer to
grow into a balanced, mature
son/daughter of God.**

Romans 8:14

Romans 8:28-30, And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover, whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.



Maturity needs a standard. We are not called to "measure ourselves by ourselves."

II Corinthians 10:12, For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

Ephesians 3:17,19, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Colossians 2:9-10, For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.



The Nature of God

Exodus 34:6-7, And [God] passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, 'The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion, and sin. Yet He does not leave the guilty unpunished; He punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation.



God is not only perfect in His nature and character, but He is also perfectly balanced.

He Is a Holy God

Isaiah 6:1-3, In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!”

A God of Righteousness

Psalm 145:17, The LORD is righteous in all His ways, Gracious in all His works.

A God of Love

1 John 4:8, He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

Lamentations 3:22-23, Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

Malachi 3:6, For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore, you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.

Psalms 89:14, Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you.



**The nature of God is the
measuring line of our maturity.**

- **Loving like God**

I John 4:11-12, Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

- **Holy like God**

I Peter 1:15-16, But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, “Be holy, for I am Holy.”

◦ **Faithful like God**

Psalm 18:25, With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful; With a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless.

◦ **Patient like God**

Colossians 3:12, Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put-on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering.

- **Merciful like God**

Luke 6:36, Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

- **Forgiving like God**

Ephesians 4:32, And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

- **Balanced like God**

Matthew 5:48, Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.



**Godliness means being
like God in thought,
word, and behavior.**

II Peter 1:3, His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness.



What Balance Is Not

I Peter 1:24-25, Because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away, But the word of the Lord endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

Lukewarmness

Revelation 3:15-16, "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm - neither hot nor cold - I am about to spit you out of My mouth."



“There is a common, worldly kind of ‘Christianity’ in this day, which many have a cheap Christianity which offends nobody, and requires no sacrifice-which costs nothing, and is worth nothing.”

Doublemindedness

James 1:6-8, But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.



**Jesus is the focal point for our spiritual
balance.**

**We are walking in balance only when we
have the Lord Jesus as our focal point.**

The Key to Balance

Colossians 3:12-14, Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience...Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

The key to the balance of God's nature is found in love.

Ephesians 4:15, Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

Colossians 1:10, And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God.



Three Things Spiritual Maturity is Not:

- **Spiritual Maturity is not about Age.**
- **Spiritual Maturity is not about Achievements.**
- **Spiritual Maturity is not about Appearance.**



7 Marks of Developing a Spiritual Balanced Life:

- 1. The Highs and Lows of Life Don't Impact Your Relationship with God.**
- 2. You Find Value in the "Dailiness" and Trivial Seasons of Life.**
- 3. You Are at Peace with Situations Beyond Your Control.**
- 4. You Don't Allow Spiritual Disciplines to Take a Back Seat.**

5. You Do Not Compare Yourself to Others.

6. You Understand Christianity Doesn't Have an On/Off Switch.

7. You Have a Sustainable Rhythm to Your Life.



**“Never get so busy
making a living that you
forget to make a life.”**

Bible Study Follow Up Chat Questions:

1. What is your greatest takeaway from today's lesson?
2. How can you tell how much your relationship with Christ is affecting your life?
3. How do you measure your growth?
4. Name three aspects of God's nature.
5. Why is "lukewarmness" one of the worst forms of compromise?
6. Why is "doublemindedness" a hindrance to spiritual growth?
7. No one ever fully matures spiritually. Explain.
8. List some things that will cause us to be spiritually unbalanced.