

B. Discipleship

2 Peter 1:5-8 — *For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with goodness, goodness with knowledge, knowledge with self-control, self-control with endurance, endurance with godliness, godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

5. Let us live with Relationships

A. Sharing

2 Cor 8.5 — *First they gave themselves to the Lord, then to us by the will of God*

B. Caring

1 Corinthians 12.25 — *care for one another*

C. Bearing

Galatians 6:2 — *Carry one another's burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.*

We now have 20 20 hindsight The last year was a doozie! As we walk through our lives, let us strive to make the most of every opportunity. Let us be committed to live with **P.O.W.E.R!**

Let us live with P.O.W.E.R. this year!

Let us *pay careful attention to HOW we LIVE* in these evil days.

Let us live **WISELY**, making the MOST of **EVERY** opportunity.

Let's live so they can **ONLY** say good things at our funerals!!

Let us live with P.O.W.E.R. !

LIVING with POWER

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A fellow was heard to say that he was trying to live so the preacher wouldn't have to lie at his funeral. I couldn't fully agree, but I understood what he meant. That is exactly what Paul is talking about in Ephesians 5.15-16. The Bible says, "Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk — not as unwise people but as wise — making the most of the time, because the days are evil" (CSB). Let's un-pack this a bit.

The King James says, "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise." There is the key — **HOW YOU WALK**. How you walk is how you **LIVE**.

Walk means daily walk, lifestyle, how you LIVE your life. The Bible is talking to us about how WE walk, that is, about how we live OUR lives.

See, then, means pay careful attention. That is an imperative, a command.

Pay careful attention means circumspectly. This word means, "exactly," "accurately," "diligently," or "carefully." Circumspectly is an excellent word, we just do not use it very much today.

We are instructed, directed, to live **NOT as unwise people, BUT as WISE.**
We know that, “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom” (Pro 9.10). We know the holy word of God is able to make us wise unto salvation (2 Tim 3.15).

Paul amplifies and applies his instruction. He says, “**making the most of the time, because the days are evil.**” He uses a word that means, “To buy out” or “to redeem.” One scholar summarized it to mean, “To make wise and sacred use of every opportunity for doing good, so that zeal and well-doing are, as it were, the purchase money by which we make the day our own.”

We are encouraged to make the **BEST** use of the opportunities, those opportune times. **EVERY** moment is a **gift** from God; so **make EVERY moment count.** Why? “**Because the days are EVIL.**” Do we live in evil days? We certainly do! Then, we best make the MOST of EVERY opportunity. Let us pay careful attention to how we live in these evil days. Let us **walk wisely** in our lives, making the most of EVERY opportunity.

Let us LIVE with P.O.W.E.R! Here’s what P.O.W.E.R. means :

Payer

Outreach

Worship

Enrichment and

Relationships

1. Let us live with Prayer

- A. Confidently** — James 1:6 *But let him ask in faith without doubting.*
- B. Consistently** — Luke 18.1 *Pray and do not quit*
- C. Expectantly** — Mark 11:24 *Therefore I tell you, everything you pray and ask for — believe that you have received it and it will be yours.*

2. Let us live with Outreach

A. Invitation

John 4:28-29 — *Then the woman left her water jar, went into town, and told the people, “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?”*

Revelation 22:17 — *Both the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” Let anyone who hears, say, “Come!” Let the one who is thirsty come. Let the one who desires take the water of life freely.*

B. Evangelization

2 Corinthians 5:18-21 — *Everything is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation. That is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and he has committed the message of reconciliation to us. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us. We plead on Christ’s behalf, “Be reconciled to God.” He made the one who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

Luke 24:45-48 — *Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. He also said to them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead the third day, and repentance for forgiveness of sins will be proclaimed in his name to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.*

3. Let us live with Worship

A. Privately

Psalms 77:6 — *At night I remember my music; I meditate in my heart, and my spirit ponders.*

Mark 1:35 — *Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he got up, went out, and made his way to a deserted place; and there he was praying.*

B. Corporately —

Hebrews 10:24-25 — *And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.*

4. Let us live with Enrichment

A. Devotions

2 Peter 3:18 *But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.*