

## WALKING FOR A PURPOSE

**Scripture:** Matthew 6:16-21

March 12, 2020

We were encouraged to write toward the theme, "Walking with Jesus." I was excited about the prospect because of my love for walking. It was an activity I enjoyed with my father and today is an activity I enjoy with family and friends. I walk for exercise and to bask in the beauty of God's creation. In some of my solo walks, Jesus has walked with me and has revealed complete messages that have been shared with my Church and with the Edgewood Summit retirement community.

I recall that Jesus was always walking somewhere. Although I am sure he acquired some health benefits through his walking, I believe his walking had greater purpose as he pursued his mission to teach and serve.

In the scripture reading, it speaks about where we should place our treasures. William Barclay shares a story regarding the early church in Rome which cared for the sick and distressed. Believing the Church was full of treasures, the Romans sat out to loot the treasures. Upon arrival and finding none, they inquired where the treasures were. The Church prefect pointed out the widows and orphans who were being fed, the sick who were being nursed, and the poor whose needs were being supplied. "These," he said, "are the treasures of the Church." What we keep, we lose, and what we spend, we have.

I am blessed to be at a downtown Church which tends to our homeless neighbors on three Fridays each month with fellowship, food, worship, and prayer. We cannot meet all the needs, but it is a recognition of our treasures. If thieves broke into our Church, it would be sad, but it would not change who we are. If we stopped caring for the poor, it would be a tragedy.

**Prayer:** Precious Lord take my hand. Lead me on to the places I need to be. Open our eyes to the treasures all around us. Amen.

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