

TOPIC: Living an Efficacious Life

Key text: **Psalm 1:1-3**

God created and designed us to bear fruit.

Jn 15:5-6, 8 – *If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit... You did not choose me... I chose you so that you might go and bear fruit... This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit.*

Story of a man who bought an Orange orchard

He was so focused on the fruits that he had totally forgotten about the roots.

Look after the roots and the fruits will look after you.

Healthy trees will always bear fruit in due time.

As believers, there are disciplines that we need to practice if we want to become effective and fruitful in our walk with the Lord.

Psalm 1:1-3

*¹ Blessed is the man Who **walks** not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor **stands** in the path of sinners, nor **sits** in the seat of the scornful;*

² But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.

³ He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.

3 key principles to live a life that is efficacious (fruitful) and worthy of Christ

1. Watch how you walk. It's about your direction in life.

¹ Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly...

Christian life is not just a ticket to get us to heaven. It is a journey!

Direction, not intention, will lead us to our destination.

We need to watch how we walk.

The Bible encourages to walk in the Spirit.

Rom. 8:14 – *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.*

Read *Gal. 5:16; Gal. 5:25*

2. Watch how you stand. It's about your position in life.

² *Blessed is the man Who does not stands in the path of sinners...*

We must know our position in Christ. Christ is now our reference point.

The more we understand our identity in Christ, the more our life will begin to reflect our God-given identity.

a. In Christ you are a new creation.

Read *2 Cor. 5:17*

b. We are complete in Christ.

Read *Col. 2:10; 2 Pet. 1:3*

c. We are more than conquerors in Christ.

Read *Romans 8:37*

3. Watch how you sit. It's about who you associate with in life.

Associate yourself with people of good quality because you become like those people you spend the most time with. Choose your friends carefully.

Proverbs 12:26 – *The righteous choose their friends carefully but the way of the wicked leads them astray.*

1 Cor. 15:33 – *Do not be deceived: Bad company corrupts good morals or good character.*

Our direction, our position and our association in life must be fuelled and founded in God's Word.

God's perspective is spelt out clearly in the Bible. We just need to read it and apply it.

Spending time reading and meditating on the scriptures is not time wasted but it is time invested.

Habitually doing this will have a great impact in our lives and our lives will become blessed, fruitful and worth living in Christ.

Joshua 1:8 confirms this...

*Study this Book of Instruction continually.
Meditate on it day and night...Only then will
you prosper and succeed in all you do.*

Watch how you walk. *Let the Word of God
guide you in every step of the way.*

Watch how you stand. *Let the Word of God
show you who you are in Christ.*

Watch how you sit. *Let the Word of God lead
you to the right people.*