

Walking In Truth

“I have no greater joy, than to hear, that my children walk in truth” (3 John 1:4).

Gemini 4 was the 2nd manned Gemini space flight, and the 10th manned American space flight in our nation’s space flight program. The highlight of the mission was the first space walk by an American, a United States Air Force officer and a NASA astronaut named Edward White. Photographs help us relive his moving outside the Gemini 4 capsule in 1965. The space walk outside the spacecraft lasted 22 minutes.

The term spacewalk is somewhat deceiving because astronauts do not really walk – they float – usually without their feet touching anything solid. White was connected to the spaceship only by a thick tether. He carried a hand-held self-maneuvering unit which allowed him to move around. The device is essential in the free-fall of space since there is nothing (except the spaceship) to push off to guide movements.

It is very clear that believers are not on a space flight. And, our primary mission is not to walk in space. We are here on the earth and our commission is to “walk in truth.” That is, truth is the holy sphere in which we are to walk. Similar to the spacewalk, however, we are connected to the spaceship of grace by faith. We can only maneuver as we cooperate with the command center within the spaceship.

Walking in truth is conceivable! Because we have failed to walk in truth so often, we may become discouraged and think that such a life is unlikely. The truth about walking in truth, however, is that it is possible; it is feasible; it is conceivable. The Apostle rejoiced to hear that his children were walking in truth. If the believers to whom John wrote walked in truth, you and I can walk in truth, as well.

Walking in truth is conspicuous! Not only is it stated that these saints walked in truth, but it is also obvious that they walked in truth. In the previous verse, John said, “For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth” (3 John 1:3). Again we are reminded that if truth is in people, it will surface and be apparent in their daily lives.

Walking in truth is cheering! The Apostle John was blessed in an incomparable way because his children walked in truth. He did not say that he rejoiced; He confessed, “For I rejoiced greatly.” In our key-text, he added, “I have no greater joy, than to hear that my children walk in truth.” It cheered his heart to know that those who had come to know Christ through his ministry went on with Christ and walked in truth. May our lives cheer our spiritual fathers, too.