

Learning and Living the Bible Together

Living the Christian Life

Lesson #3

What does it mean to live as a Christian? The Bible shows me people that are passionate for God (David, Abraham, Joseph, Daniel, Paul, Peter, John, etc.). How can I live for Him like that? I want to live the life for which God made me.

1. The Christian life only occurs from a sure salvation that is only through Christ.

- > A Christian is made new by Christ. There should be real change occurring in the life of a follower of Christ. True living starts with a new birth only caused by God. We must be careful not to substitute religion, church, respect from others for real salvation.
- > A Christian should pursue the life they have been made for in Christ (Phill. 1:21; Mark 12:30; 2 Cor. 4:16-5:9; Phil. 2:12)

2. The Christian life is a completely different lifestyle than the world around us.

- > A Christian “counts the cost” and pursues God’s will each day. This results in God being a priority above everything (family, work, our selfish desires, etc.).
- > A Christian gives their life to Him without qualifications or boundaries. A Christian lives with full and exclusive devotion to God.

The Third Question for us is a question of focus, purpose, and priority. What is a primary goal we must have?

3. The Christian life is focused on the Gospel.

a) the advancement of the Gospel is a priority (Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 1:8, 2:38-41, 4:20, 4:33, 5:42, 8:4-5; Phil. 1:5, 7, 12, 16-18, 27; 1 Peter 2:9)

> What hinders us from focusing on the Gospel?

- * we accept a church “norm” that we can exclude the Gospel from everyday living instead of looking at commands from Scripture
- * sharing the Gospel is not seen as an essential part of a Christian life (Mark 8:34-35)
- * fear of people
- * fail to see lostness and eternal destiny of the world around us (2 Thes. 1:8-9)

* fail to recognize we are directed by our Lord to share the Gospel (1 Thess. 2:4)

- has not been role modeled within the church

- sharing of the Gospel is not really emphasized

- not willing to give our life for this purpose

b) joy, excitement, and gratitude overflow from our life due to our salvation by God's grace (1 Tim. 1:12-17; 1 Peter 1:1-3; Eph. 2:1-10)

> Why would we not be excited about sharing and telling of Gospel?

Not a real salvation, taking salvation for granted, lives dulled by glitter of the world

What happens in Scripture that we can apply to us?

* it is part of our everyday conversation due to our joy and excitement. It is not necessarily a planned event.

* you truly recognize you have been rescued from God's wrath (1 Thess. 1:10)

* you fully realize salvation was a gift to you (Eph. 2:8-9)

—> **A Christian is excited and thankful for the work of God's grace in their life. They are fully aware they are saved by His work and His work alone. A Christian recognizes they were headed for hell and eternal separation from God without God reaching down and rescuing them.**

—> **A Christian is focused on seeing the Gospel advance around the world. This means a Christian shares their faith, supports work that advances the Kingdom, and yearns to see people come to know Him.**