

Learning and Living the Bible Together

Living the Christian Life #1

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.

The First Question to ask is whether you are a true follower of Christ. You cannot live the Christian life unless you are converted by Christ.

1. What does Scripture say about a Christian's conversion and their redeemed life?

- a) a Christian is a new creation when they are saved (2 Cor. 5:15,17)
 - their desire is to live for Him. Your desire is for the things of God.
- b) a Christian is born again into a new life and a new person (John 3:3)
 - their life is to be different from their old life (Rom. 6:4, 8:11; Gal. 2:20)
 - * repentance has occurred in their heart (Rom. 10:9-10; 2 Peter 3:9; Acts 17:30)
 - * Sin is not comfortable.
 - they are made new for a life of good works for Him (Eph. 2:8-10)
- c) a Christian can have an abundant life in Christ (John 10:10)
 - they can have joy and peace in their daily life (Phil. 4:4-7)
- d) a Christian has been set apart for Him and for use in His kingdom (1 Peter 2:9-10; 2 Cor. 5:18-20)
- e) a Christian has the Holy Spirit at work within them, convicting them and shaping them into the image of Christ (Rom. 8:29; Phil. 1:6; John 16:13-14; Phil. 2:13)
- f) a person can be deceived (Titus 1:16; Matt. 7:21-23)
How? Religious activity can be substituted for Him.
 - a person can think they are secure and think they are a Christian but they are not
 - a person can rely on religious activity (baptism, church membership, praying a prayer [but no change]) but have never been truly converted

- professing Christians should examine themselves (2 Cor. 13:5)

* Review Rom. 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9-10, 10:13; Eph. 2:8-9. Scripture reveals the way to salvation.

* Followers of Christ know they were delivered from spiritual death. They see their sin, their complete inability to be good enough to go to heaven, and realize they are eternally lost without the work of Jesus. (Eph. 2:1-3)

* Followers of Christ have been made alive only due to God's mercy, love, and grace. (Eph. 2:4-7)

—> **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 baptism, religious activity, church membership, or respect from others for real salvation.**

—> **A Christian should pursue the life they have been made for in Christ (Phil. 1:21; Mark 12:30; 2 Cor. 4:16-5:9; Phil. 2:12)**

- Followers of Christ hunger for God and the things of God (Phil. 3:10-11; John 14:21)

We have a Great Salvation! To live the Christian Life, we must first make sure we are truly saved and made new by Him.