

LIVING FOR CHRIST (Romans 6:11)

As Paul has said in our text verse our lives are suppose to be lived by letting Christ live through us. So how can we know that we are living for Christ and not just fooling ourselves and those around us?

II Corinthians 13:5; II Peter 1:10-11 Both Paul and Peter warn us to be constantly challenging ourselves on our walk with Christ. Peter even gives us a checklist of virtues that should be evident.

DESIRE FOR THE BIBLE

Romans 10:17 Every believer that wants to be close to God realizes that we need to have our faith increased as we continue to mature as believers.

Psalms 25:4-5 Just as David desired to be close to God and have His heart, we also need to crave the truths and wisdom that can be found in God's holy word.

Romans 16:17 Reading and studying God's word pleases God because it is by doing this we can identify false doctrine and problems within and without the church and that helps us stay with truth.

II Timothy 3:14-17 So often the bible tells us to learn and to keep what we have learned about sound biblical doctrine. We are assured that God's word is more precious than gold, silver, or fine jewels.

I Timothy 4:13, 15 Once again we are exhorted to read and dig out the truths of scripture not only for our own well being but that we might be examples of how God wants people to glorify Him.

PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN LIVING

Luke 18:1 Along with bible reading and study practical Christianity requires daily prayer time.

Ephesians 5:20; Romans 8:28 A most difficult command from God is to be thankful for all things.

Hebrews 10:23-25 Do we practice encouraging one another in love and fellowship every service?

James 1:22 James tells us where the rubber meets the road. A lot of people talk about being saved and being church members but the way to tell others about Christ is to live a practical Christian life.

James 1:2-5 As we go through life we will experience many trials and temptations. God tells us that believers can maintain a spiritual joy even in these trials and testings which is practical Christianity.

James 2:1-5 As believers we are to love and accept all peoples and have no partiality toward anyone for any reason. Some 'believers' and some 'churches' put God to shame when they discriminate.

James 2:14-18 James also shows that part of living a practical Christian life is found in our service.

II John 1:5-6 The Apostle John gives us a good example of the practical Christian life. First he says that we are to love one another then he tells us that to prove our love for God we are obedient to Him.

Romans 14:19; Ephesian 4:29 We are told to help build up each other and encourage one another.

KEEPING A CLEAN HEART

Psalms 139:23-24 We must be like David and realize God knows us better than we know ourselves. He will not use a vessel that is not clean so we must constantly pray that He shows us our faults.

Psalms 19:12-14 How smart of David to write down that he was prone to hidden sins and prays that God would show him these faults before David sinned. If we will do this we will save ourselves and others from a world of sorrow and a harvest of heartache.

I John 1:8-9 We are all aware that we sin every day. The problem we all face is that we put off our confession to God and therefore break fellowship with Him. He will not help us if we refuse to confess.