

# **LIVING IN CHRIST**

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# OUTLINE

1. God is concerned as to how His children live.
2. Living in Christ:
  - A. Have the right attitude toward God;
  - B. Develop the right attitude by realizing God's purpose for our lives;
  - C. Holiness fulfills the purpose of God in our lives;
  - D. What Holiness requires?
  - E. Holiness is in every aspect of a Christians life.
3. Conclusion

**God is concerned as to how His children live.**

## **1. COMMITMENT**

**Matthew 16: 24 - 25**

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to His disciples, **"If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.**

<sup>25</sup> **"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.**

**God is concerned as to how His children live.**

**2. LIVE FOR CHRIST AND NOT FOR OURSELVES -**

**CHRIST REDEEMED US BY HIS DEATH ON THE CROSS AND PROVIDED SALVATION TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE**

**2 Corinthians 5:14 - 15**

<sup>14</sup> For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died;

<sup>15</sup> and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

**God is concerned as to how His children live.**

**3. ARM YOURSELF WITH THE MIND OF CHRIST AND LIVE RIGHTEOUSLY AND GODLY.**

**1 Peter 4: 1 - 2**

**<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,**

**<sup>2</sup> so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.**

**God is concerned as to how His children live.**

## **4. WALK IN THE LIGHT**

### **1 John 1: 5 - 7**

<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that **God is Light**, and in Him there is no darkness at all.

<sup>6</sup> If we say that we have fellowship with Him and *yet* walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;

<sup>7</sup> but if we **walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light**, we have **fellowship with one another**, and the **blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

**God is concerned as to how His children live. It is essential that we learn to live as we should.**

**1. COMMITMENT**

**2. LIVE FOR CHRIST AND NOT FOR OURSELVES**

**3. ARM YOURSELF WITH THE MIND OF CHRIST AND LIVE RIGHTEOUSLY AND GODLY.**

**4. WALK IN THE LIGHT**

# Living in Christ

A. Have the right attitude toward God

**Proverbs 4: 23**

<sup>23</sup> Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it *flow* the springs of life.

Guard your heart because it is the source of all action.

**Proverbs 23: 7**

<sup>7</sup> For as he thinks within himself, so he is. He says to you, "Eat and drink!" But his heart is not with you.

# Living in Christ

B. Develop the right attitude by realizing God's purpose for our lives.

## 1. To glorify God.

### Revelation 4: 11

<sup>11</sup> "Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created."

### 1 Corinthians 6: 20

<sup>20</sup> For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

### 1 Corinthians 10: 31

<sup>31</sup> Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

# Living in Christ

B. Develop the right attitude by realizing God's purpose for our lives.

## 2. To share in God's glory.

### **2 Thessalonians 2: 13 - 14**

<sup>13</sup> But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth.

<sup>14</sup> It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **2 Timothy 2: 10**

<sup>10</sup> For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.

# Living in Christ

C. Holiness fulfills the purpose of God in our lives.

1. Holiness does not mean being pretentious or self-righteousness.

2. **Holiness** means being **dedicated, devoted** and **set apart from the world to serve God.**

**1 Peter 2: 9 - 10**

<sup>9</sup> But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR *God's* OWN POSSESSION, so that you may **proclaim the excellences of Him** who has **called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;**

<sup>10</sup> for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are **THE PEOPLE OF GOD;** you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.

# Living in Christ

C. Holiness fulfills the purpose of God in our lives.

3. By serving God, we glorify Him.

**Romans 12: 1 - 2**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is your spiritual service of worship*.

<sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. 12

# Living in Christ

D. What Holiness requires?

**D 1-a. Alive to God by being instruments of righteousness.**

**Romans 6: 11 - 13**

<sup>11</sup> Even so consider **yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,

<sup>13</sup> and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but **present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.**

# Living in Christ

D. What Holiness requires?

**D 1-b. You were released from sin and committed to a life of righteousness.**

**Romans 6:17-18**

<sup>17</sup> But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed,

<sup>18</sup> and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

**D 1-c. Freedom from sin resulting in sanctification with the outcome of eternal life.**

**Romans 6:22**

<sup>22</sup> But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.

# Living in Christ

D. What Holiness requires?

**D 2. The man in Christ Jesus is freed from condemnation by the power of the Spirit.**

**Romans 8: 4 – 5, 13 - 14**

<sup>4</sup> so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

<sup>5</sup> For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, **but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.**

<sup>13</sup> **for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die;** but if **by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.**

<sup>14</sup> **For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.**

# Living in Christ

D. What Holiness requires?

**D-3. Separating yourself from sin and striving to live faithfully.**

**2 Corinthians 7: 1**

**<sup>1</sup> Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**

# Living in Christ

D. What Holiness requires?

## **D-4. Dedicate your life to God's service and His glory.**

### **1 Peter 1: 13 - 16**

<sup>13</sup> Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober *in spirit*, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

<sup>14</sup> As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours* in your ignorance,

<sup>15</sup> but like the Holy One who called you, **be holy yourselves also in all your behavior;**

<sup>16</sup> because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

# Living in Christ

E. Holiness is in every aspect of a Christians life.

1. Christianity is not a “Sunday only” religion.

2. Christians must be holy (set apart) obeying God in every aspect of life. For example:

## a. In Society

### **Matthew 5: 16**

<sup>16</sup> "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

### **Matthew 7: 12**

<sup>12</sup> "In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

# Living in Christ

2. Christians must be holy (set apart) obeying God in every aspect of life. For example:

## b. In the Home

### **Colossians 3: 18 - 21**

<sup>18</sup> Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

<sup>19</sup> Husbands, love your wives and do not be embittered against them.

<sup>20</sup> Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so that they will not lose heart.

# Living in Christ

2. Christians must be holy (set apart) obeying God in every aspect of life. For example:

## c. On their Jobs

### Colossians 3: 22 - 23

<sup>22</sup> Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who *merely* please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

<sup>23</sup> Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,

### 1 Thessalonians 4: 11 - 12

<sup>11</sup> and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you,

<sup>12</sup> so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need.

# Living in Christ

2. Christians must be holy (set apart) obeying God in every aspect of life. For example:

## **d. With respect to the Government**

### **Romans 13: 1**

<sup>1</sup> Every person is to **be in subjection to the governing authorities**. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

### **1 Peter 2: 13 - 14**

<sup>13</sup> **Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution**, whether to a king as the one in authority,

<sup>14</sup> or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right.

# Living in Christ

2. Christians must be holy (set apart) obeying God in every aspect of life. For example:

## e. To the Church

### **1 Peter 2: 5**

<sup>5</sup> you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

# Living in Christ

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### **B. Develop the right attitude by realizing God's purpose for our lives.**

1. To glorify God.
2. To share in God's glory.

### **C. Holiness fulfills the purpose of God in our lives.**

1. Holiness means being dedicated, devoted and set apart from the world to serve God.
2. By serving God, we glorify Him.

### **D. What Holiness requires?**

1. Alive to God by being instruments of righteousness.
2. You were released from sin and committed to a life of righteousness.
3. Freedom from sin resulting in sanctification with the outcome of eternal life.

### **D. What Holiness requires?**

4. The man in Christ Jesus is freed from condemnation by the power of the Spirit.
5. Separating yourself from sin and striving to live faithfully.
6. Dedicate your life to God's service and His glory.

### **E. Christians must be holy (set apart) obeying God in every aspect of life.**

1. In Society
2. In the Home
3. On their Jobs
4. With respect to the Government
5. To the Church

# CONCLUSION

1. God wills that His children live their lives in harmony with His purpose in Christ.

2. Living in Christ brings glory to God and happiness to His children; now, and forever.