

Personal/Small Group Sermon Study

Week of May 14, 2023 A.D.

The Goal of Your Life Is to Become More Like Christ

Are you committed to becoming like Christ? This study may help you to evaluate your answer to that question.

(Note: For every question which appears in this study, always give the reasoning and/or the explanation for each of your answers.)

Read James 1:22-25

1. According to these verses, is attending a weekly church service all that God expects from a person who claims to believe in Jesus Christ as his or her Savior and Lord? Can anybody be a Christian without experiencing life-changing habits and behavior?
2. Is it the will of God that all Christians who have access to a Bible are to study and to obey God's Word on a continual daily basis? If not, why not? If so, why? If so, are you doing so?

Read Romans 8:28-30

3. Is there any area or detail of human life in which God is not involved? Does God want us to seek and follow the will of God in every area and detail of our lives? If so, why? If not, why not?
4. Does God expect each of us to take deliberate actions and to develop deliberate habits to continually become more and more like Jesus? If not, why not? If so, why and how?

Read Romans 12:1-2

5. Is it possible to please God without daily reading the Bible and praying with the express intent and purpose of learning what God wants you to do? How often do you do this and why?
6. Does God expect you to be different from non-believers in the way that you think and act? Does God want you to please Him? Can you love God without wanting to please Him?

Read Acts 2:42-47

7. What are your thoughts about the behavior of the early "believers" in Christ as described in this passage? Did their behavior please God? Is the same behavior pleasing to God even today?
8. How much of this behavior do you witness and/or initiate and/or experience in your life each day? Do you want to become more like those early believers? If not, why not? If so, what deliberate actions are you practicing to make this happen?

Read Matthew 20:20-28

9. Does Jesus expect each and every one of His followers (including you and me) to be a servant to others? Do you believe that Jesus is pleased with the amount of servanthood (a) in your life, (b) in the lives of your family members, (c) in the lives of your church members? For each answer, explain what Jesus would say to the persons involved.

Read Philippians 2:1-11

10. Does Jesus want each of us to behave and think like Him? if not, why not? If so, why?
11. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: "Christianity is not a set of rules or an academic exercise. Christianity is a personal relationship with God which is experienced through fellowship with, and obedience to, the Holy Spirit who lives in each believer."
12. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: "Faith in Christ is a life which is committed to loving and serving Christ and His kingdom as the primary reason for your existence."

Consider: "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come." 2 Cor. 5:17 Knowledge of, and obedience to, the Word of God is absolutely essential in the life of a believer. "You think about that." Amen.