

Souls for Christ Ministries Presents: New Believer's Lessons

Lesson #8 How to Live a Holy Life

In this lesson you will learn:

- What your character should be like
- How to tame your tongue

As a new believer we must set new standards of thought in our lives as we grow in Christ?

There are many things that radiate the character of God in us.

Let us examine ways the Bible teaches us we radiate the Character of Christ:

1. Patience

Proverbs 15:18 says: *"A hot-tempered man stirs up dissension, but a patient man calms a quarrel."*

Romans 8:24-25 says: *"For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently."*

Romans 12:12 instructs us to: *"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer"*.

The Bible tell us that patience is a fruit of the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23a says: *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience", kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control..."*

Proverbs 16:32a says: *"Better a patient man than a warrior..."*

2. Thanksgiving

Gratefulness is thankfulness to God.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 commands us to: *"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*

Thankfulness helps us learn generosity, teaching us to worship God properly and it creates the right heart before God. Thankfulness brings God's blessings to us.

3. Daily Devotions

Prayer and Bible intake create a solid foundation that keeps us afloat in our good and bad times. Spending time with God is our only weapon against temptation that helps us apply the Word.

Joshua 1:8 says: *"Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."*

Lesson #14 has more teaching about prayer. Lesson #7 has more teaching about the Bible.

4. Thinking God's Way

If you learn to control our thoughts, the battle is almost won. It's said "*He who has the mind has the man...*"

Control Controlling your thought life enables you to control your speech and actions

Obedience When we obey in the small things it helps us learn patterns of righteous living.

John 8:31-32 says: *To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

Our thoughts make us or break us later in life. "What would Jesus do"? What would he say? Developing good patterns takes time and practice.

Philippians 4:8 says: *"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."*

Developing the right mindset and thoughts is a process. It's not something we just do. The right patterns have to be formed over time, through obedience and meditation on God's Word.

Romans 12:2 says: *"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will."*

5. Attitude

Attitude determines everything. Our attitudes show in our actions. Having the right attitude is a choice.

The right attitude happens when:

- ✓ We chose the positive over negative thoughts entering our minds.

This means meditating on purity and righteousness.

Read: **Romans 7:25, Psalms 119:176, Galatians 5:1**

This means doing good to others even if they wrong us. Read: **Titus 1:16**

This means submission to God's plan no matter how we think or feel. Read: **James 4:7**

- ✓ We resist evil -Who am I resisting? Why? Who are we fighting against?

I Peter 5:8 says: *Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings."*

5. Church Attendance / Listening and Doing

Attending Church helps us to grow. Our growth is fully dependent upon Christ, our solid rock.

Read: **John 15:1-16**, **2 Peter 1:2-8**

Maturity comes when we retain the things we learn and put them into practice.

Psalm 19:14 says: *"May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer."*

Lesson #11 has more teaching about Church Attendance

6. Taming the tongue

The book of James teaches us that taming the tongue makes all the difference in our lives.

Failure to do so can destroy our integrity and make us false witnesses for Christ.

- The person that wishes to please God must act in line with the Word of God.
1 Timothy 4:12-14 says: *"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity."*
- The result of a tamed tongue is a pure life
Titus 1:15 says: *"To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted."*
- If I return to old patterns, it ends up affecting my walk with God.
Colossians 3:8 says: *"But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips."*
It's clear that our speech does affect our walk with God.
2 Corinthians 5:17 says: *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come."*
- Taming the tongue means watching our words to prove our convictions are real. Because people judge us by our walk, our talk and attitudes.
Matthew 12:36-37 Jesus says: *"But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgement for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."*

Questions for you about this lesson Please look up the following verses in your Bible

1. What must we pursue instead of evil desires? Read: **2 Timothy 2:20-22**
2. Impatience means? Read: **1 Peter 2:20**
3. What does a patient man gain what by trusting in God? Read: **Psalms 37:17**
4. Name two things that you are thankful for right now?
5. What is God's will for us according to **1 Thessalonians 5:18?**
6. What must we not let go of as the end approaches? Read: **Hebrews 10:20-25**
7. As we serve the Lord what should our attitude be like? Read: **Philippians 2:5**
8. According to the Bible what must our thoughts contain?
Read: **Colossians 3:1-5** and **Psalms 119:9**
9. The Book of Philippians tell us we must choose to think about? Read: **Philippians 4:9-10**
10. List the fruit of Spirit according to Galatians 5. Read: **Galatians 5:17-24**
11. Godly people always pursue what? Read: **1 Timothy 6:11**
12. What principle is taught in Matthew regarding God's promises? Read: **Matthew 5:33-37**
13. What should our speech do for others as we radiate the character of Christ to them?
Read: **Ephesians 4:29**

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Bible verses taken from the New International Version