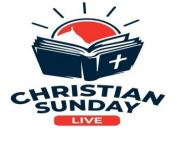




ANCHOR VERSE

1 John 2:3-6 (NIV): "We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. Whoever says, 'I know him,' but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.



- Not all Christians are Christians, and Christianity is not determined on the outside but on the inside, and then, what is inside spills out unto the outside. When the person is a true Christian on the inside, the only marker that you will see on the outside is that the person fears to do anything evil, untruthful, lying, etc. The person loves to stand by the truth even when it is very harmful unto death!
 - ► Romans 2:28 (KJV) For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:
 - ▶ Romans 2:29 (KJV) But he *is* a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the spirit, *and* not in the letter; whose praise *is* not of men, but of God.



- Are love for one another, and humility, the greatest commandments in the Bible? Are Christians practicing the Bible? Why is the world more and more dangerous? Why are churches and their leaders part of the evils in the world?
- ► Here is the first and the greatest commandment in the Bible! Let us consider the following Scriptures to confirm our doctrine:
 - **Deuteronomy 6:4 (KJV)** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:
 - Mark 12:28 (KJV) And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?
 - Mark 12:29 (KJV) And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:
 - Mark 12:30 (KJV) And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this *is* the first commandment.



- Here is the second greatest commandment in the Bible:
- Mark 12:31 (KJV) And the second *is* like, *namely* this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.
- ► The spiritual lesson here is that when you fulfil those two commandments, you have fulfilled the entire Old Testament!
- It is impossible to have love for one another except you first have love toward God Almighty! Any attempt to practise love outside of God will result in much pain and frustration because it is impossible to love outside of God because love is God! It is the vertical love toward God that produces the horizontal love toward humans. Without vertical love, there can be no horizontal love! Without first loving God, a man cannot love his/her neighbour or his wife, for God is love!



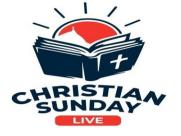
- ► Humility is not a commandment but a fruit of the Holy Spirit. Humility will come and appear by itself when Holy Spirit dwells inside you. People will see your humility and say it without you asking them anything. Humility is obedience to the Word of God. A humble person is one who daily obeys the Word of God in all his/her decisions
- ▶ 1 Peter 5:5 (KJV) Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.



- ► Christianity is not Christianity when the person who calls himself/herself a Christian lives in sin! A Christian is one who is like Christ and Jesus Christ was not disobedient to God! The one and only mark of Christianity is obedience to the Word of God:
 - ▶ Romans 2:25 (KJV) For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision.
 - ▶ Romans 2:26 (KJV) Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision?
 - ▶ Romans 2:27 (KJV) And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law?



2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.



- ▶ James 1:22 (NIV): Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.
- Matthew 7:21 (NIV): Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.
- John 14:15 (NIV): If you love me, keep my commands.



God's Will and Guidance:

- ➤ Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV): "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.
- ▶ Psalm 32:8 (NIV): "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you."
- ▶ Isaiah 30:21 (NIV): "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.



Moral and Ethical Framework

- ▶ The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17):
- ► This foundational passage provides fundamental moral guidelines, including commands about worshiping God, honoring parents, not committing murder, not stealing, and not bearing false witness, among others.
- ► The Great Commandment (Matthew 22:37-39):
- ▶ "Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself."
- ► The Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12):
- ► "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."



Spiritual Growth and Transformation:

- ▶ Romans 12:2 (NIV): "Do not conform 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."
- ▶ 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NIV): "And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."
- ▶ Ephesians 4:22-24 (NIV): "You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.



Communion with God:

- ▶ Psalm 42:1-2 (NIV): "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?"
- ▶ Psalm 63:1 (NIV): "You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water."
- ▶ James 4:8a (NIV): "Come near to God and he will come near to you."
- ▶ Hebrews 4:16 (NIV): "Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."



Strengthened Faith and Assurance:

- ► Hebrews 11:1 (KJV): "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."
- ▶ Romans 10:17 (KJV): "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."
- **2 Corinthians 5:7 (KJV):** "For we walk by faith, not by sight."
- ▶ Ephesians 3:16-17a (KJV): "That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith...
- ▶ 1 Peter 1:7 (KJV): "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ."



Influence on Others:

- Matthew 5:16 (New International Version): "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."
- ▶ 1 Timothy 4:12 (New International Version): "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity."
- ▶ Proverbs 11:25 (New International Version): "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.
- ▶ 1 Thessalonians 1:7-8 (New International Version): "And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere."



Eternal Perspective:

- **2 Corinthians 4:18 (KJV):** "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."
- ► Colossians 3:1-2 (KJV): "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."
- Matthew 6:19-21 (KJV): "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.



Love And Compassion

- ▶ 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (KJV): "Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things."
- ▶ 1 John 4:7-8 (KJV): "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."
- ▶ John 15:12 (KJV): "This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you."



Forgiveness

- ► Ephesians 4:32 (KJV): "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."
- ▶ Matthew 6:14-15 (KJV): "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."
- ► Colossians 3:13 (KJV): "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."
- Mark 11:25 (KJV): "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."



Compassion

- Colossians 3:12 (KJV): "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering."
- ► Ephesians 4:32 (KJV): "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."
- ▶ 1 Peter 3:8 (KJV): "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous."
- ▶ Romans 12:15 (KJV): "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep."
- ► Galatians 6:2 (KJV): "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."



Prayer

- ▶ 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (KJV): "Pray without ceasing."
- Matthew 6:6 (KJV): "But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly."
- ► Mark 11:24 (KJV): "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."
- ▶ James 5:16 (KJV): "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."



WORSHIP

- ▶ John 4:23-24 (KJV): "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."
- ▶ Psalm 95:6 (KJV): "O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker."
- ▶ Psalm 100:4 (KJV): "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name."



- Start your day with thanks and Praise GOD in truth.
- ► Tell God why you want to thank HIM:
 - ▶ Pour out your heart out in truth.
 - Express your love to him.
 - Assure yourself in confirmation of his love for you.
 - Ask forgiveness of sin (because of your sinful nature)
 - Pray for your enemies and leave the rest to God.



- We should pray in every situation, with thanksgiving, and present our requests to God. He will give us peace and guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus
- ▶ Philippians 4:6 (KJV) Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
- ▶ Philippians 4:7 (KJV) And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.



- ► 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you
- Pray always in secret as your first resort



James 1:6 (KJV) But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed



► Romans 8:26 (KJV) Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered



Helping Others

- ► Galatians 6:2 (KJV): "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."
- Matthew 25:35-36 (KJV): "For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me."
- ▶ Proverbs 19:17 (KJV): "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD, and that which he hath given will he pay him again."
- ▶ 1 John 3:17 (KJV): "But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?"



Studying the Word:

- ▶ 2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV): "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."
- ▶ Joshua 1:8 (KJV): "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success
- ▶ Psalm 119:11 (KJV): "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."
- Psalm 119:105 (KJV): "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."
- Hebrews 4:12 (KJV): "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."



Spiritual Guidance:

- ▶ Psalm 32:8 (KJV): "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."
- ▶ Proverbs 3:5-6 (KJV): "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."
- ▶ Isaiah 30:21 (KJV): "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."
- Psalm 119:105 (KJV): "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."
- James 1:5 (NIV): "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."



Hebrews 4:16 (KJV) Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need



Christian Practices:

- **▶** Openness to Change and Growth:
- Good Christian Living
- LIVING A LIFE OF INTERGRITY
- ► Humility:
- Purity and Immorality
- ► Faithfulness and Trust in God



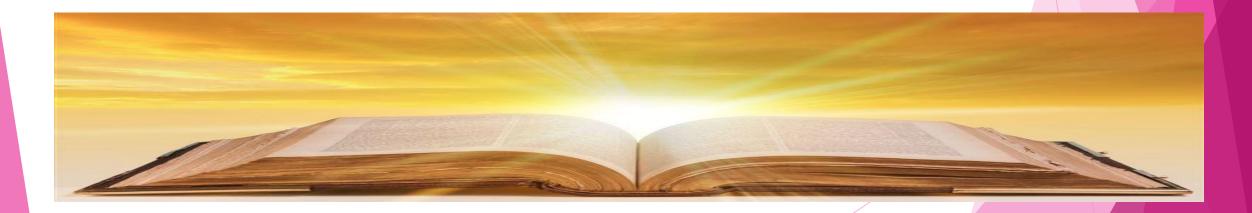
Christian Practices:

Faithfulness and Trust in God Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.



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See you in our next podcast.

- Remember to stay on the narrow path that leads to righteousness and Godliness
- Read your Bible, pray everyday if you want grow, obey the commandments of our Lord Jesus and shun evil companions!
- ► Remember God loves you!!!

