

Bible Study
Living for God, Not the World – Continued – Lesson - 11
Pastor Charles A. Hall – July 6th ,2023

Theme: Living for God, Not the World

“Living for God, Not the World” means that we as true Christians and believers of Jesus Christ no longer place our own selfish desires, needs, and wants above our relationship with God, making God’s desires and will a priority in our life. This means that what God wants for us, always supersedes, what we want for ourselves in any area of our life.

Foundational scriptures for our theme:

2 Corinthians 6:17 WHEREFORE COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, AND BE YE SEPARATE, SAITH the LORD, AND TOUCH NOT THE UNCLEAN THING; AND I WILL RECEIVE YOU,

1 John 2:15-17 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him,. (16) For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. (17) And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

In March we adopted the theme of “Living for God, not the world” and since that date we have broken this theme into 5 lessons which are listed below:

Prior Lessons:

- Lesson #1 Living for God not the world
- Lesson # 2 How do we live for God, how do we stop living for the world, and why is it so difficult to live for God.
- Lesson #3 The difficulties and challenges of living for God
- Lesson # 4 The Struggle Within
- Lesson # 5 The Influence Without
- Lesson # 6 Living Spiritually
- Lesson # 7 Being able to recognize God’s Voice
- Lesson #8 Staying Committed to your faith
- Lesson #9 Avoiding the pitfalls as we journey through this life
- Lesson #10 Allowing the power of God to pick us up after a fall

Living For God Without emulating the World

As we strive to live our lives in accordance with the commandments and instructions from God, as revealed to us through His holy word. We must learn how to live and cultivate a relationship with God without incorporating worldly attributes. In other words, we must learn how to live for God without weaving into our daily lives worldly ways, and practices. There are many Christians that are faithful followers and believers of Jesus Christ, that still hold onto worldly ways, sometime even in the house of God, because we have convinced ourselves and some around us that its ok. As true believers and disciples of Jesus Christ it is not OK, to incorporate into our walk or lives, things, ways nor practices of the world! Things of the world hinder our relationship with Christ, no matter how innocent they appear. That’s why God tells us in His word that a little bit of worldliness will corrupt our walk with Him. Those who have truly accepted God’s free gift of salvation which

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comes with eternal life, and freedom from the bondage of sin, should never again involve themselves with the affairs of this world.

- **Galatians 5:9** A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.
- **Galatians 5:1** Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.
- **1Corinthians 4:16 -17** Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you. (7) If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

Christ suffered and gave His life for sinners (all of us), as followers of Jesus Christ and true believers of the finished work on the cross, we should have the same mind. Which means that those who have suffered in the flesh from sin, should be finished with sin. As a result of having suffered, and now being free we should live the rest of our earthly life not involving ourselves in the lust of this world, but rather to the will of God. Most of us can remember the life that we lived prior to hearing and receiving the gospel of Jesus Christ. None of us should want to return back to that life, which was a life separated from God. Now that we have received Christ and have been born again by the spirit of God, we no longer have the desire to go back to the old lifestyle. Those that we left behind who have not accepted God's free gift of eternal life and forgiveness, wonder why we don't return back to our old ways. Some of them even talk about us, and say all sorts of evil things about us. What they fail to understand, is that the same God that brought us out of darkness, into the marvelous light, will one day judge us and them. Those who have been born again shall inherit the kingdom of heaven, but those who die in their sins will go to hell!

- **1Peter 4:1-3** Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;(2) That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lust of men, but to the will of god.(3) For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in the lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: (4) Wherein they think it strange ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you (5) Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge he quick and the dead.
- **John 3:3** Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.