

Bible Study
Living for God, Not the World – Continued – Lesson - 13
Pastor Charles A. Hall – July 20th, 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**
- **1 John 2:15-17**

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
- Lesson # 11 Living For God Without emulating the World
- Lesson # 12 Not Being Ashamed of Who You are In Christ

Setting Aside Those Things that throw Us Off Course

If we truly desire to live for the Lord, rather than for the world, we must be willing to set aside anything that can cause us to veer off course. We must be willing to turn away from anything that can cause us to take our eyes off of God. I am aware that each of us have a lot of things going on in our daily life, however there should be nothing in our lives that should cause us to take our focus off of God. Our relationship with God should be woven into every facet of our life. There should not be any area of our life that God is not a part of. When we accepted Jesus Christ as our one and only Savior, we became in oneness with Him, which means He is in us, and we are in Him. We should not only invite God into every area of our life, but we should always seek His direction and guidance, rather than relying on our own limited earthly knowledge and wisdom. If we live our life truly depending and relying on God’s direction, He will be faithful in ordering our steps to ensure that we are on the right path, rather than the path of destruction.

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- **Hebrews 12:1** WHEREFORE seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,
- **1 John 4:13** No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. (13) Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his spirit. (14) And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.
- **Proverbs 3:6-7** In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths (7) Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil.

Living with Unnecessary and Harmful Earthly Baggage

As we journey through this earthly life, most of us tend to pick up things, habits, and sometime even other people, that seemed good for us at the time. However, over time, these things, habits, or people become a burden and liability to our relationship with Christ. These burdens and liabilities in the life of a believer separates them from the presence and the power of God. Over time we began to believe that it is impossible to separate ourselves from these burdens and liabilities. The result is that we now have a relationship with Christ that is hindered by the weight of these burdens, thus our relationship with Christ will never be what He desires for us, nor will they experience victory in their Christian walk. The outward manifestation of this burdensome relationship in a believer is the lack of any real noticeable spiritual growth. The only thing that is powerful enough to separate us from these burdens and liability is the pure Word of God, full strength and not watered down.

- **2 Corinthians 4:18** While we look no 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.
- **Galatians 5:16-17** This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall no fulfill the lust of the flesh. (17) For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.
- **Hebrews 4:12** For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged 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.