

Bible Study
Living for God, Not the World – Continued – Lesson - 14
Pastor Charles A. Hall – July 27th, 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
- Lesson # 13 Setting Aside Those Things that throw Us Off Course

Living Among Them Without Being One Of Them

One of our foundational verses **2 Corinthians 6:17** speaks about coming out from among them and separating ourselves, and not touching the unclean thing, and then it states that the Lord will receive us. When we examine this verse closely we can clearly see that the Lord is instructing His children to come out from among them that live worldly. The apostle Paul is stating in this verse that true believers of Jesus Christ, who have been reconciled back with God, should live in a way that reflects the true nature of God, not the world. When Jesus died, and shed His blood on the cross for our sins, He satisfied the demands of God’s holiness. Therefore, we are commanded to live holy, which is a moral standard of living that is acceptable in the eyes of God. We realize that none of us are completely righteous, and holy, but our daily mission and objective should be to do our best to live up to God’s holiness one day at a time. The challenge for us is to live among them, separate ourselves, and yet still being physically located in the same worldly space. To accomplish this we must first understand what is meant by separating ourselves from those who live worldly lives. First, we must separate ourselves (*not to be a part of*) by not participating in their sinful activities and lifestyle. Secondly, we should do our best to physically separate ourselves, as much as possible, from those who profess to be believers, but are living

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sinfully, in other words they are living a lie! Third we are instructed by the word of God not to get involved in relationship with unbelievers which may cause us to compromise our biblical values.

- **2 Corinthians 6:17-18** Wherefore COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, AND BE YE SEPARATE, saith the Lord, AND TOUCH NOT THE UNCLEAN THING; AND I WILL RECEIVE YOU, (18) AND WILL BE A FATHER UNTO YOU, AND YE SHALL BE MY SONS AND DAUGHTERS, saith the Lord Almighty.
- **1 Corinthians 5:9-11** I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: (10) Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world. (11) But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such a one no, not to eat.
- **1 Peter 1:14-16** As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lust in your ignorance. (15) But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; (16) Because it is written, BE YE HOLY; FOR I AM HOLY.

In today's worldly atmosphere it is extremely difficult to tell the Christians from the world because they are so interwoven in their daily lives. This makes it very difficult to witness to non-believers, to eventually win souls over for the Lord. Especially when we cannot distinguish between the believer from the none believer, nor from the one who is pretending to be a believer. To live holy, and victoriously, each of us must first look into our own spiritual mirrors, and make a personal decision to be a positive Godly influence on this world, or rather to allow the world to influence us! We must live in such a way that even non-believers will take notice that we do not walk as those that are still of the world, even though we are physically in the world. When we live holy and righteous we should always be willing and ready to let the onlookers and the naysayers know the reason for our hope.

- **Matthew 5:16** Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven
- **1 Corinthians 15:33-34** Be not deceived: evil communication corrupt good manners (34) Awake to righteousness and sin not, for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.
- **1 Peter 3:15-16** But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: (16) Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as a evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.