

**Bible Study**  
**Living for God, Not the World – Continued – Lesson - 8**  
**Pastor Charles A. Hall – June 1, 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

**Staying Committed To Your Faith**

After we have heard the true gospel of Jesus Christ, and our hearts have been opened to the word of God. We are then able to receive the quickening spirit of our God, which transforms us from fleshly creatures to spiritual creatures. We are now able to understand what the spirit of God is speaking in our hearts. However, we now face a different challenge, obeying what the spirit of God is saying to us. To obey the voice of God, we must stand strong and stay committed to our faith. Staying committed to our faith simply means holding onto what we have professed to believe based on the word of God. In Jeremiah, the Word of God tells us that God has a plan for each of us, and this plan will come about if we commit ourselves to living for God, not the world. If we do this, God’s plan will unfold itself as we journey through this life. God told us clearly in His word, that if we seek Him, and His Kingdom first, then He would give us everything we need. To seek God’s Kingdom means to continue to pursue His righteous character in our daily lives. This means to try our best to live our life in alignment with God’s word, as much as humanly possible.

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- **Jeremiah 29:11** For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.
- **Proverb 16:3** Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.
- **Matthew 6:33** But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you.
- **Psalms 25:4** Show me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths.

### **Remain Steadfast**

In today's worldly environment, the church is under profound attack and worldly influence to change its beliefs and values. In fact, there are laws that are being proposed now both on the state and national level that will place the church and its members to be out of alignment with God's righteous standards, if they obey them. The emerging worldly influence will present a challenge for the church and its body of believers. This will place the church in a position of doing what is morally correct in the eyesight of God, or doing what is biblically wrong, but mandated or supported by the laws of man. There are consequences no matter which direction one chooses, however the failure to follow God's commandments bring greater penalties and destruction, and the consequence of disobeying God is much further reaching than disobeying man. However, the effect of disobeying man's laws may have a more immediate impact on our earthly lives, which in turn may produce earthly mental and physical persecution. True believers must be willing to withstand personal persecution, mentally and physically. Knowing that God will not only give us the strength to stand, but the resulting victory as well. We must remember that when we are living for God, the persecution that we are suffering is not really about us, but rather an opportunity for God to get glory through our obedience and trust we have in Him!

- **2Corinthians 4:17-18** For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; (1\*) 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.
- **1Corinthians 15:57-58** But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (58) There, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.
- **James 1:2-3** My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations, (3) Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.