

PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES ON HOW TO LIVE FAITHFULLY IN CHRIST

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TYPE OF BIBLE CLASS: Topical

SUBJECT: Faithfulness

COMPLEMENT: How to live faithfully in Christ

PROPOSITION: Christians possess all the necessary information to be able to live a faithful life in Jesus Christ.

OBJECTIVE: To remind Christians that living a faithful life in Christ is possible.

INTRODUCTION:

1. Faithfulness is a subject that is emphasized from the first book of the Bible (Genesis), to the last (Revelation).
2. *The NT can be outlined as follow (Johnny Ramsey):*
 - a. Matthew to John – The life of Christ
 - b. Acts – How to become a Christian
 - c. Romans to Jude – How to live faithfully as a Christian
 - d. Revelation – How to die as a Christian (victoriously)
3. Jesus is our supreme example about the faithful life that you and I should be living now (Heb. 5:8-9; Matthew to John).
4. In this lesson we will examine 7 practical principles that can help us to live a faithful life in Christ.
5. As we study together, let us make plans to put into practice what we learn (James 1:22-25).

First, to live faithfully in Christ, Christians must...

I. REMEMBER THE IMPERATIVE TO FAITHFULNESS.

1. **A faithful life in Christ is not an option, but an imperative for the Christian:**
 - a. Phil 2:12 – “*Work out*” is in the imperative mood, present tense
 - b. 1 Cor 15:58 – “*Be steadfast*” is in the imperative mood, present tense
 - c. Phil 1:27 – “*Let your conduct be worthy*” is in the imperative mood present tense
 - d. Revelation 2:10 – “*Be faithful*” is in the imperative mood, present tense
2. If it is a command from God, and it is, then we must give our best to strive to live faithfully in Christ.
3. Have we forgotten the divine imperative to faithfulness?

Second, to live faithfully in Christ, Christians must...

II. REMEMBER THE COMMITMENT THEY MADE TO GOD WHEN THEY BECAME CHRISTIANS.

1. *When we obeyed the Gospel of Christ, we...*

- a. Believed that Jesus Christ came, die for our sins, was buried, but then on the third day He resurrected from the dead (1 Cor 15:1-4).
 - b. Repented of our sins (Acts 3:19).
 - c. Confessed Christ as the Son of God (Rom 10:9-10).
 - d. Were baptized for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16).
2. *What was the implication of such an action?*
 - a. It implied that we were willing to follow Christ (Matt 4:19).
 - b. It implied that we were willing to suffer anything for Christ (Phil 1:29).
 - c. It implied that we believed He is the only way to salvation (John 14:6; Acts 4:12).
 - d. It implied our complete trust in Jesus (John 3:16).
 - e. It implied that we would dedicate our entire life to Christ (Phil 1:21).
 - f. It implied that we would imitate Christ (1 Cor 11:1).
3. Those Christians who have departed from the faith are the ones who have forgotten their commitment to Christ!
4. Those we read about in the Bible who obeyed the Gospel of Christ remained faithful to Him; we should to the same!
5. May God help us to always remember the serious commitment we have towards God.!

Third, to live faithfully in Christ, Christians must...

III. ACKNOWLEDGE THE FACT THAT FAITHFULNESS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED.

1. All the verses we discussed on our first point help us understand that faithfulness can be accomplished; otherwise, God would not have asked us to do something we could not do!
2. *Faithfulness can be accomplished because...*
 - a. God has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness (2 Pet 3:17).
 - b. God has given us His Word that is able to equip us unto every good work (2 Tim 3:17).
 - c. God has promised to help us (Phil 1:6).
 - d. God has given us a spirit of power and not fear (2 Tim 1:7).
 - e. God has given us examples of those under the Old and New Testament who were able to accomplish faithfulness (Heb. 11).
3. Knowing that faithfulness is something we can accomplish will help us to stay faithful all the days of our earthly life.
4. Remember, God is always with us (Heb 13:5; Matt 28:20).

Fourth, to live faithfully in Christ, Christians must...

IV. REMEMBER THAT WITHOUT BIBLE KNOWLEDGE, SUCH CANNOT BE ACCOMPLISHED.

1. Everything we can learn about faithfulness is found in the pages of the inspired Word of God; Therefore, without the Word of God, we cannot learn anything!
2. *The benefits of Bible knowledge:*
 - a. It can help us not be destroyed (Hos 4:6; Isa 5:13).
 - b. It can help us not sin against God (Psalm 1:1-3; 119:9, 11).
 - c. It can help us overcome Satan's temptations (Matt 4:1-11).
 - d. It can help us accomplish maturity in Christ (Col 1:28).
3. *If this is the case, and it is, then Christians must...*
 - a. Be diligent students of the Word (2 Tim 2:15).
 - b. Allow God's Word to abide in their hearts richly/abundantly (Col 3:16).
 - c. Grow in the knowledge of the Word (2 Pet 3:18).
 - d. Read it with much frequency (1 Tim 4:13).
 - e. Memorize it (Psalm 119:11).
 - f. Use the Sword of the Spirit (Eph 6:17).
 - g. Receive it and practice it (James 1:21-25).
4. May God help us to acknowledge the fact that without Bible knowledge we will not be able to live faithfully in Christ.
5. All those under the Old and New Testament that were faithful to God, were able to do so because they loved, appreciated, studied and practice God's Word.

Fifth, to live faithfully in Christ, Christians must...

V. REMEMBER THE NEED TO ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO FAITHFULNESS.

1. Many are the reasons why I am faithful to God at this time, but I must say that one of those reasons is the continued encouragement I receive by brothers and sisters in Christ.
2. We are the family of God (Eph 2:19), and as such, we help each other make it to heaven.
3. We need to take a moment to call or visit someone and encourage them to live faithfully in Christ.
4. The letters penned by the NT writers had the purpose of encouraging Christians to remain faithful to God.
5. We, also, need to take time to encourage others to faithfulness.
6. *Things we can do to encourage others to faithfulness:*
 - a. Encourage others when they are facing trials in their lives.
 - b. Encourage others to be diligent students of the Bible.
 - c. Encourage others to practice daily prayers.
 - d. Encourage others to memorize God's Word.
 - e. Encourage others to church attendance.
 - f. Encourage others to participate in the work of the church.
 - g. Remind others about the eternal reward that awaits us.
7. These things can help us stay encourage while we strive to make it to heaven.
8. Are you doing these things?

Sixth, to live faithfully in Christ, Christians must...

VI. REMEMBER THE ETERNAL CONSEQUENCES OF NOT LIVING FAITHFULLY IN CHRIST.

1. *The Bible makes it clear what the eternal consequences are of not living a faithful life in Christ:*
 - a. There are only two options when it comes to living a faithful life: (1) We are faithful, or (2) we are not.
 - b. The unfaithful will spend eternity in hell/eternal punishment (Rev 21:8; 2 Thess 1:7-9)
2. Brethren, hell is real, and as such, we must strive to stay away from going into that horrible place.
3. The kind of life that God is asking us to live is not an impossible one!
 - a. We can live faithfully to avoid going into hell.
4. Therefore, next time you want to break the commandments of God, take a moment, and think about hell!
5. Remember, God does not want us to go to hell, but to heaven (1 Tim 2:4; 2 Pet 3:9).

Finally, to live faithfully in Christ, Christians must...

VII. REMEMBER THE BEAUTIFUL REWARDS OF STRIVING TO LIVE FAITHFULLY IN CHRIST.

1. *Striving to live faithfully in Christ results in beautiful rewards:*
 - a. We enjoy fellowship with God (1 John 1:6-7).
 - b. We enjoy fellowship with God's family (1 John 1:7).
 - c. We become a great example to those in the world (Matt 5:16).
 - d. We enjoy the beautiful opportunity to enter heaven (the Book of Revelation).
2. Many are the blessings we can enjoy by living faithfully in Christ.
3. May God help us to remember these blessings and to allow such to motivate us to faithfulness in Christ.

CONCLUSIÓN:

1. As we can see, faithfulness in Christ is possible, and it is a subject of utmost importance in the Bible.
2. May God help us to always consider these 7 practical ways on how to live faithfully in Christ.

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