

LESSONS ON CHRISTIAN LIVING

As you grow in the Christian life it is important to continue studying the Bible regularly and learning how to practice the basics of Christian living. In Lessons on Christian Living you will learn about eight principles and promises God has given you as his son or daughter, and the corresponding responsibilities and privileges you have in living a life that pleases God.

You may find it best to take a few of the study questions each day, rather than trying to do the entire lesson in one sitting. This will help you have a regular intake of the word of God. And remember to use spare moments each day for reviewing your verses. Master each memory verse perfectly, word for word.

For effective Bible study it is helpful to have an easy-to-read Bible, a dictionary, and a quiet place to study.

6 PUTTING CHRIST FIRST

Review the following verses, and check them off after quoting them correctly from memory.

1 John 5:11-12	John 16:24
1 Corinthians 10:13	1 John 1:9
Proverbs 3:5-6	

Memorize Matthew 6:33

Putting Christ First

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matthew 6:33

God has given us many privileges. But we also have certain responsibilities. The Bible tells us what God expects of us. Our response should be to obey Him and to thank Him for all he has done for us.

Many promises in the Bible are unconditional. But most of those, which concern our growth as Christians, are conditional upon our obedience to his will. Lessons on Christian Living highlights eight of these responsibilities that will help you build the foundation for a healthy Christian life. Who will you live your life for? What has first place in your thoughts and plans? Jesus often

challenged his disciples to consider their commitment to Him and His kingdom. He said, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it" (Luke 9:23-24).

Following Him in this way may mean struggles and trials, but also the privilege of resting in Christ: "Come to me," Jesus said, "all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

As you memorize and apply Matthew 6:33, seek to know Christ better every day. As you put Him, His will, and His work first in your daily life, you will begin to fully experience God's love and care, for He has promised to provide all of your daily needs.

EXPLORING MATTHEW 6:33

What are "these things"? (Look up Matthew 6:25-32.)

Are these necessities or luxuries? Explain your answer.

What has God promised to do if you put His interests first in your life?

"SEEK FIRST HIS KINGDOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS"

1. What does God want us to do?

Psalm 37:3

Psalm 37:4

Psalm 37:5

2. From 1 Samuel 12:24 give one reason for serving the Lord with all your heart.

3. Read 1 Samuel 15:22, What does God desire more than sacrifice?

4. How should we obey God's commands according to these verses?

Psalm 119:34

Psalm 119:60

5. In 2 Timothy 3:16, what did Paul say is God's means for training us in righteousness?

"ALL THESE THINGS WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU AS WELL"

6. Read Ephesians 3:20-21. How much do you think God can do for you?

7. In Isaiah 40:11, how does God promise to treat his people?

8. Read Philippians 4:4 and 4:6. List two things we are instructed to practice as believers.

9. How does Philippians 4:7 describe the result of applying Philippians 4:4 and 4:6?

10. What was Paul's attitude towards his circumstances in Philippians 4:11 -13?

How was he able to do this?

11. According to Matthew 6:3, how well does God know your present needs?

WRITE OUT MATTHEW 6:33 FROM MEMORY

APPLYING MATTHEW 6:33

Take a moment to pray that God will help you give his kingdom and his righteousness first priority in all areas of your life.

From Matthew 6:25-32 list any needs which you want to trust God for. Claim his promise in Matthew 6:33 for meeting these needs, and pray about them. Place a check here ___ when you have done this.