

Knotty Oak Baptist Church  
Practical Bible Lessons  
The Believer's Joy

I. The Ultimate Source of Joy (Salvation)

When we truly come to know Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour, God's Word says that we should have a genuine joy that is deeper and truer than ever before. Spiritual joy is to be distinguished from "happiness," which is dependent on what is "happening." This joy is to be a source of strength, and becomes the basis for proper worship and patient service.

What do the verses below teach us about the ultimate source of this lovely Christian joy?

1. Ecclesiastes 2:26

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2. Philippians 4:4

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3. Luke 10:20

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4. Romans 12:12

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5. Isaiah 25:9

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## II. Other Sources of Joy

In addition to our salvation we are to have joy in the things of the Lord. In other words, we are to rejoice in things that make God rejoice, and in the things He has lovingly provided for us through our salvation. The Scriptures tell us that we are to “delight” ourselves in the Lord (Psalm 37:4). The world, the flesh, and the Devil all conspire to tell us that the things of God are boring -- not so!

What do the following verses teach us about the rejoicing of the Christian?

1. Psalm 118:24

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2. Acts 11:23

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3. Luke 15:7

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4. Acts 5:41

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5. John 13:17

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## III. The Fullness of Joy

God not only wants us to have joy, He wants us to have abundant joy! All that God offers to us in salvation He wants us to possess abundantly (John 10:10). He wants His children to radiate the Joy of the Lord! Without doubt, He has given us enough to rejoice in, but we let temporal events rob us of our joy. This in turn robs us of a better testimony, and may lead to a weakened Christian life.

What do the verses below teach us about the fullness of Joy?

1. John 17:13

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2. John 15:11

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3. Psalm 16:11

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4. I Peter 1:8

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5. I Peter 4:13

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#### IV. The Importance of Rejoicing

It is important that Christians learn to rejoice! The world is tired of bitterness, sadness, and cynicism. Instead, it is obvious that so many people are looking for a manifestation of real Christianity. Remember that one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit is joy. Not only does the joy of the Lord attract others to the Lord, it also is designed by God to do many wonderful things for the believer.

What do the following verses teach about the importance of joy?

1. Nehemiah 8:10

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2. Proverbs 15:13

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3. Psalm 37:4

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4. Psalm 63:5

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5. Isaiah 65:14

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#### V. The Command To Be Joyful

Manifesting the "Joy of the Lord" is not an option! Like most of God's exhortations, we really have no choice but to obey God, if we would be faithful to Him! We may ask, how can God command people to be joyful? The answer lies in the fact that when we engage in the things of God, we will find them a delight (John 13:17). On the basis of this principle, God commands us to rejoice.

What do these verses teach with regard to God's command to be joyful?

1. I Thessalonians 5:16

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2. Psalm 100:2

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3. Psalm 66:1

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4. Romans 12:15

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5. Philippians 3:1

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Knotty Oak Baptist Church  
Practical Bible Lessons  
The Believer's Prayer Life

I. Some General Principles Regarding Prayer

Prayer is not a mysterious thing! Some have tried to make it so, but God's Word teaches otherwise. This is not to say that there are not a great many principles that govern the work of prayer, however! We need to be like Jesus' disciples, who one day came to Him and said, "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1). God wants us to study His Word, and make believing applications.

What do the verses below teach us about the ministry of prayer?

1. Matthew 18:18,19

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2. James 4:1-3

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3. James 5:17,18

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4. Acts 12:5

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5. Matthew 6:6

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## II. What Is The Answer To Prayer?

Man's wisdom says, "God answers prayer with a "yes", "no", or "maybe". However, the Word of God teaches nothing of the sort! The problem with this concept is that it reduces prayer to a "hit" or "miss" prospect, and in fact serves to demoralize believers, and thus becomes a true hindrance to praying. This principle and promise challenges our faith, but is nonetheless true.

What do the following verses teach us about the answer to real prayer?

1. I John 5:14,15

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2. John 16:23,24

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3. John 14:13,14

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4. John 15:7

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5. James 1:5

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## III. Why Should We Pray?

Many believers miss out on the benefit of answered prayer simply because they do not understand the necessity of an active prayer life! Almost all of our failures in the Christian life are due to prayerlessness. All Christians acknowledge the truth of James' statement, "ye have not because ye ask not" (James 4:2), but strangely, most of us seem to have difficulty applying it.

What do the following verses teach us about the necessity of prayer?

1. Luke 22:41

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2. Hebrews 4:16

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3. Ephesians 3:20

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4. I Peter 5:7

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5. Luke 18:1

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#### IV. The Conditions For Answered Prayer

The principles of God's Word are very clear: Biblical prayer only takes place when we ask for something the right way. The Scriptures teach us that both the request and the person making the request must meet certain conditions for God to answer. We must also remember that God also determines to what degree a believer must meet His conditions before He chooses to answer.

What do the following verses teach us about the conditions for answered prayer?

1. I John 5:14

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2. Psalm 66:18

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3. James 5:16

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4. I John 3:22

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5. I Timothy 2:8

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#### V. Praying For Others

As we set out to bear one another's burdens, it is our sacred responsibility to pray for one another! In virtually all of Paul's letters the apostle mentions his requests for the church and then reminds the church to pray for him. This type of prayer is referred to as "intercessory prayer." A willingness to intercede in the behalf of others is a natural result of the biblical relationship called "fellowship."

What do the following verses teach us about the responsibility to intercede?

1. I Samuel 12:23

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2. John 17:11

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3. John 17:13

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4. John 17:15

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5. John 17:17

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Knotty Oak Baptist Church  
Practical Bible Doctrines  
The Believer's Separation

I. The Importance Of Separation

The Christian is a "new creature" in Christ! As children of God that are "born of God", He expects us to live lives worthy of the Gospel of Christ, and show that we are "firstfruits of His creation" (James 1:18). This aspect of the Christian life requires that we aggressively refuse conforming to the world and aggressively pursue the transformation that comes from the studying the Word.

What do these verses teach about the importance of separation?

1. I Peter 3:10-12

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2. Psalm 1:1

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3. James 4:4

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4. II Timothy 4:10

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5. Romans 1:1

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## II. Separation From Sin

If we would be blessed of God and secure the power of the Holy Spirit, we must turn from the sin and wickedness that characterized our lives before we trusted Christ as our Saviour. We can only do this as we grow in grace. It is not by our own natural ability or sheer determination that we overcome temptation, but by the power of God that comes through prayer and God's Word.

What do the verses below teach us about separation from sin?

1. I Timothy 5:22

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2. I Corinthians 6:18

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3. II Timothy 2:22

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4. Psalm 101:3

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5. Romans 8:12,13

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## III. Separation From The World

The Believer is not of this world! The Lord clearly taught this in His last discourse with the disciples, and Paul said that our "citizenship is in Heaven" (Philippians 3:20). For this reason, God's Word teaches us to be separated from the world system, which is formulated and dominated by those that are blinded by the Devil, and thus are opposed to any Divine Authority.

What do the following verses teach us about the world and the believer?

1. I John 2:15

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2. James 1:27

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3. Romans 12:2

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4. Ephesians 5:11

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5. Luke 16:13

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#### IV. Separation From False Religion

Jesus said that the Father seeks those who will worship Him in Spirit and in "truth." Biblical worship should be according to the Scriptures if it would be acceptable to God. One of Satan's tricks is to deceive believers into "fellowshipping" with unbelievers (ecumenism). This invariably results in a compromise of the Scriptures, of spiritual values, and of moral practices.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to separation from false religion?

1. II Corinthians 6:15-17

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2. Titus 3:10

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3. Matthew 16:11,12

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4. Revelation 2:20-22

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5. Joshua 24:15

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#### V. Separation From Backslidden Christians

The command to be separate from backslidden Christians is clearly stated, but greatly neglected by most Christians. In fact, the standard of separation is greater regarding the wayward Christian than to the unsaved. The purpose of God in everything is to glorify Himself and benefit His creation. For this reason He commands that godly believers separate from ungodly believers.

What do these verses teach us with regard to separation from backsliders?

1. I Corinthians 15:33

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2. II Thessalonians 3:14

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3. I Corinthians 5:11

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4. Romans 16:17

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5. Matthew 18:17

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Knotty Oak Baptist Church  
Practical Bible Doctrine  
The Believer and Others

I. Loving to Others

The first command that we should obey with regard to each other is “to love one another.” Not only is this the Lord's first command to us, it is the foundation upon which the other commands can be built. Everything that God asks us to do with regard to our relationship with others in the family of God is predicated upon the fact that we are to have an Agape love toward others.

What do the following verses teach us about loving others in the family of God.

1. Ephesians 4:2

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2. I Peter 1:22

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3. John 13:35

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4. Colossians 2:2

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5. I Thessalonians 3:12

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## II. Speaking to Others

The Word of God has much to say about the speech of the believer, especially as it relates to other believers. In almost every one of Paul's epistles we find the Apostle mention something about speech, and every chapter in the practical Book of James speaks of the tongue. Remember, it is our words and our deeds that comprise the tools God has given us to minister with.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to our speech toward others?

1. Ephesians 4:15

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2. Colossians 3:16

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3. I Thessalonians 4:18

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4. Hebrews 3:13

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5. Ephesians 4:29

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## III. Ministering to Others

When we trusted Christ, and became members of the family of God, we entered into a new familial relationship with many other people. Just as we would be quick to help our physical family members, so God tells us that we are to be eager to help our spiritual family members. The willingness to help others is called "ministry" and is vital to the health of the church.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to our responsibility to each other?

1. John 13:4

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2. Romans 15:14

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3. Galatians 5:13

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4. Galatians 6:2

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5. I Thessalonians 5:11

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#### IV. Courtesy to Others

One thing that parents often try to instill within their children is courtesy to others. Politeness and kindness make everyone's day easier, and are hedges to keep us protected from selfishness and self-centredness. God also has much to say about His children being polite and kind to others. (See Matthew 7:12.) Remember that our lives are to be characterized by a Christlike distinctiveness.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to being polite to others?

1. I Corinthians 13:5

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2. II Corinthians 13:12

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3. Colossians 4:15

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4. James 3:17

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5. Ephesians 4:32

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#### V. Esteeming Others

How we look at others will often determine how we treat them. The Scripture says that there is no respect of persons (bias) on the part of God. His concern is our spiritual and moral character, not our socio-economic status or our athletic skill. And, when someone does not measure up to God's spiritual standards, He still says that he loves that person and seeks the best for him.

What do the following verses teach us about how we should look upon others?

1. Romans 15:7

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2. Hebrews 10:24

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3. Philippians 2:3

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4. Romans 12:10

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5. I Timothy 5:1

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Knotty Oak Baptist Church  
Practical Bible Doctrine  
The Believer and Evangelism

I. The Command to Evangelize

“Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”  
In order to believe and be saved, a person must first hear the Gospel. Think about your own testimony, and how it was that you first heard the Gospel. No doubt, someone invited you to church, or gave you a tract, or personally witnessed to you – and they did this in obedience to God’s command to tell others the Good news of salvation.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Command to Evangelize?

1. John 20:21

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2. Mark 16:15

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3. Luke 24:46-48

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4. Matthew 28:19,20

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5. Acts 1:7,8

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## II. The Types of Evangelism

Sometimes believers are frightened away from doing the work of evangelism because they have a very narrow concept of how to do evangelism. They think that all evangelistic work must be confrontational. However, the Scriptures show us that the full work of evangelism ranges from impersonal to personal, to both groups and individuals, and both through the pulpit and door to door.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the various Types of Evangelism?

1. Luke 8:5,11

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2. Acts 2:14

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3. John 4:13,14

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4. Acts 5:42

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5. Luke 14:23

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## III. The Blessings of Evangelism

Regarding our obedience to the Lord, Jesus said, "Happy are ye, if ye know these things, and do them" (John 13:17). The word "happy" means "blessed," and there are many blessings for those willing to share the Gospel. And, since telling others about the Lord Jesus Christ is one of the most important things a believer could do, it should not surprise us that many blessings await those who obey.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Blessings of Evangelism?

1. Psalm 126:5-6

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2. I Thessalonians 2:19

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3. Colossians 1:6

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4. Daniel 12:3

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5. Matthew 25:21

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#### IV. The Ingredients of Evangelism

In order to do successful evangelism of any type on any scale, there are certain Biblical ingredients that need to properly work together under the Divine Governance of God. Many believers try to take shortcuts and leave out some or all of these ingredients. When they do, they fail to get the results they could have enjoyed had they followed God's plan more thoroughly.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Ingredients of Evangelism?

1. Matthew 5:16

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2. Romans 10:1

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3. II Corinthians 2:12

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4. Proverbs 11:30

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5. I Corinthians 15:1-4

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#### V. The Message of Evangelism

The message of the Gospel is a set of historical facts that demands a response from the hearer. The word "Gospel" means "Good News," and therefore an effective presentation of the Gospel begins with an explanation of the "Bad News." Thus, the message of Evangelism has three emphases: man's need of a Saviour; the Person and Work of the Saviour; and how to have a relationship with the Saviour.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Message of Evangelism?

1. Romans 3:23

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2. Romans 5:8

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3. Romans 4:25

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4. Romans 14:9

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5. Romans 10:13

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Knotty Oak Baptist Church  
Practical Bible Doctrine  
The Believer And Holiness

I. Imputed Righteousness (Positional)

The Lord Jesus said to the multitude, “that except your righteousness exceed the righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 5:20). The Lord could not have been speaking of human righteousness, because all come short of the glory of God. Rather, He was speaking about the imputation of His Righteousness imputed to us.

What do the following verses teach us about the imputation of Christ’s Righteousness?

1. Romans 1:7

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2. II Corinthians 5:21

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3. Luke 18:14

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4. Philippians 3:9

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5. Colossians 1:21,22

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## II. God's Commands To Personal Holiness

Based upon our new position in Christ, the hope of Heaven, the indwelling Holy Spirit, the power of the Scriptures, and the privilege of prayer, God calls the believer to live a life "worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing" (Colossians 1:10). There are hundreds of Scriptures that reveal God's desire and command to us to live lives that will manifest His life-changing grace to others.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to God's command to live Godly?

1. Micah 6:8

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2. Matthew 5:48

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3. II Timothy 2:19

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4. Titus 2:11,12

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5. I Peter 1:15,16

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## III. Steps To Godly Living (Growth in Holiness)

There are certain spiritual principles that God has set forth to help His children grow in grace. While it is true that only God can sanctify us, it is also true that humble participation is required on our part. Sustained Holy living is not achieved by accident or because of determination. Rather, as we submit to the teaching of God's Word in these areas, God will produce Holiness in us.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the steps to Godly living?

1. I John 1:9

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2. Romans 8:13

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3. Hebrews 12:14

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4. I Peter 3:4

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5. Psalm 119:9,11

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#### IV. The Blessings Of Holiness

God wants us to be blessed in this life as well as in the next life. David said, “surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life” (Psalm 23:6). However, many of God's blessings can only be enjoyed on the conditional basis of obedience to God. The pursuit of holiness will be a difficult, lifelong exercise. Yet it will be filled with many great blessings that make it truly worthwhile.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the blessings of holiness?

1. The Abiding Presence of God: John 14:23

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2. The Accomplishing Power of God: Psalm 1:3,4

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3. The Abundant Provision of God: II Corinthians 6:14-18

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4. The Answered Prayer of God: I Peter 3:12

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5. The Awesome Peace of God:

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#### V. The Hindrances To Holiness

There are many influences that seek to thwart the believer from a life a holiness. God wants us to be aware of each of these foes in order that we may equip ourselves to do spiritual battle and gain the victory. It is important to realize that the victory can only come through Christ. As the Apostle Paul said, “I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me” (Philippians 4:13).

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the hindrances to holiness?

1. Bad Associations: Psalm 1:1

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2. The World: I John 2:15

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3. The Devil: I Peter 5:8,9

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4. The Flesh: Galatians 5:17

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5. Our Pride: Proverbs 29:23

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Knotty Oak Baptist Church  
Practical Bible Doctrine  
The Believer And Worship

I. False Worship

We may define "worship" as "the humble, submissive, obedient response of the believer toward God." All of these elements are involved in the OT (Hebrew) and NT (Greek) concepts of worship. Because of this, any worship (even that done in sincerity) ultimately is considered by God as "false worship." Since God is the One Whom we worship, it follows that our worship must meet His standard.

What do the following verses teach with regard to False Worship?

1. Luke 4:5,7

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2. Matthew 15:8,9

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3. John 4:19-22

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4. Acts 17:16; 23-25

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5. Colossians 2:20-23

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## II. True Worship

Remember -- True Worship is the humble, submissive, obedient response of the believer toward God. This response is formed because of Who God is and What He does. Because God desires True Worship from His children, He informs us about the various elements of True Worship. Just as clearly as He tells us what defines false worship, God teaches us what constitutes True Worship.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Doctrine of True Worship?

1. Exodus 34:14

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2. John 4:23, 24

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3. Psalm 29:2

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4. Philippians 3:3

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5. Psalm 5:7

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## III. Elements Of Individual Worship

Unfortunately, when we think of Worship, we often limit our thoughts to what we do when we assemble with the brethren. However, since worship is the humble, sub-missive response of the believer toward God, worship should not be for Sundays only, but for every day of the week. Individual, daily worship will keep the Christian close to God, enabling him to abide in Christ.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Elements of Individual Worship?

1. John 13:8

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2. Matthew 6:6

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3. Psalm 1:2

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4. Psalm 146:1

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5. James 4:10

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#### IV. Elements Of Corporate Worship

While it is important to worship God on a daily, individual basis, it is equally important that we meet with our brethren on the Lord's Day for Worship. Just as there are certain things that define our individual worship of God, there are also things that should be part of our corporate worship. These things are done on the first day of the week, to help us get our week started right.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Elements of Corporate Worship?

1. Psalm 149:1

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2. Psalm 95:1

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3. Hebrews 10:24,25

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4. Psalm 96:8

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5. II Timothy 4:2

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#### V. Attitudes For Acceptable Worship

It is not only important that we do the right things in our worship, but also that we do those things with the right motive and spirit. Jesus chastised those whose worship was outward only. Remember that worship is "the humble, submissive, obedient response of the believer toward God." When the heart is not right, the believer's worship will eventually prove to be without benefit, and ultimately tedious.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Attitudes For Acceptable Worship?

1. Psalm 100:2

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2. Psalm 133:1

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3. Psalm 25:9

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4. Psalm 95:2

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5. Psalm 95:8

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Knotty Oak Baptist Church  
Practical Bible Doctrine  
The Believer And Service

I. The Basis For Service

In Romans 12:1,2 the Apostle Paul reminds us that, considering the mercies of God bestowed on us, it is our “reasonable service” to present our bodies to Him as living sacrifices. From this verse we understand that the benefits of salvation are to provide the greatest motivation regarding our service to Him. Because of this, we must be ever aware of what God has done for us.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Basis for Service?

1. Hebrews 9:14

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2. Joshua 24:16,17

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3. Romans 7:6

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4. I Thessalonians 1:9

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5. I Corinthians 15:57,58

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## II. The Conditions For Service

While the world increasingly takes on the attitude of inclusiveness and equal rights, we find that God has set strict criteria concerning those that He will allow to truly serve Him. These conditions are not for the full-time minister only, but rather are given so that anyone that is truly saved may understand the sacredness of serving God and thus aspire to do so, in any capacity.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Conditions of serving God?

1. Saved: Romans 6:6,17,18

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2. Sanctified: II Timothy 2:20,21

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3. Submitted: John 12:26

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4. Single-minded: Matthew 6:24

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5. Spiritual-minded: Galatians 5:17; 6:1

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## III. The Equipment For Service

God does not want us to be fruitless in our service, not does He want us to be helpless. God has a great interest in whether or not we are fruitful, because He said that "in this is My Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit." Likewise, God did not give us a supernatural task to accomplish, and then leave us without the supernatural tools that are needed to do the work.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Equipment for Service?

1. II Timothy 3:16,17

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2. James 5:16

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3. I Corinthians 12:4-7

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4. I Corinthians 12:31; 13:1

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5. Luke 11:9-13

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#### IV. The Attitude For Service

Effective service for the Lord requires that we approach His work with His attitude. The Word of God teaches us to “let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.” How necessary it must be to cultivate a Christlike spirit! Our attitude will have an effect on how we engage our work, how others are affected by it, and to what degree God will choose to bless it.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Attitude for Service?

1. John 15:20

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2. Psalm 100:2

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3. Hebrews 12:28

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4. Joshua 24:14

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5. Colossians 3:23,24

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#### V. The Blessings Of Service

God is not a hard taskmaster (Matthew 11:30), nor is He an ungrateful one. God duly rewards His servants in due time. One of the reasons so many Christians do not enjoy the Christian life is that they are not receiving the blessings that God has set in store for those that faithfully serve Him. Some of these rewards are realized in this life, while others are reserved for Heaven.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Blessings of Service?

1. John 13:16,17

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2. Romans 7:4-6

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3. John 12:26

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4. Matthew 25:23

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5. Revelation 22:12

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Knotty Oak Baptist Church  
Practical Bible Doctrine  
The Believer And God's Will

I. The Fact Of God's Will

Yes, God has a will for our lives! In other words, the Lord has a Divine Plan for His children to follow. This Divine Plan is pre-ordained, and we are ordered to obey it, yet the choice is ours as to how closely we do so. To persuade us to obey, God (by the Holy Spirit) works within us (through the Word) to produce submission. The Lord teaches us to seek the fulfillment of His will, and blesses those who do so.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Fact Of God's Will?

1. Ephesians 2:10

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2. Psalm 37:23

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2. Philippians 2:13

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4. Mark 3:35

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5. Luke 11:2

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## II. The Hindrances To Doing God's Will

God wants us to know and to do His will. Because this is God's desire, all that we need to both know and do His will is available to us. However, we know that God's will is often not accomplished in and through our lives. This should not only dismay the sincere believer, but it should prompt him to find the problem and remedy it. Remember: "nothing in this world is more important than God's will being done."

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Hindrances To Doing God's Will?

1. Ignorance: Ephesians 5:17

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2. Satan: I Thessalonians 2:18

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3. Worldliness: Romans 12:2

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4. Unbelief: Hebrews 11:20-24

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5. Pressure: I Peter 4:2

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## III. The Discernment Of God's Will

Because God wants us to know and do His will, He makes sure that His will can be determined. God does not want us to live in ignorance with regard to what He wants us to do! However, God does not drop us a postcard from the sky informing us as to His plans. Rather, He gives us one sure method to determine His will, and several ways to confirm what that method reveals.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Discernment Of God's Will?

1. The Sure Method: Through Peace: Colossians 3:15

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2. A Confirming Method: Through Prayer: James 1:5

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3. A Confirming Method: Through Counsel: Proverbs 19:20

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4. A Confirming Method: Through Conscience: Proverbs 11:3

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5. A Confirming Method: Through Study: Romans 12:2

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#### IV. The Details Of God's Will

Before we set out to discern God's special will for our lives, (which person to marry, what career to choose, where to attend college) we should first be determined to obey His clearly revealed general will. This would entail matters that God has clearly shown to be His desire for all believers. Of course, this begins with a person obeying the will of God as it pertains to the Gospel of Christ -- John 6:40/II Peter 3:9.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Details Of God's Will?

1. Sanctification -- I Thessalonians 4:3,4/I Peter 4:2,3

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2. Sacrifice -- II Corinthians 8:3,5/Romans 12:1,2

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3. Suffer -- I Peter 3:17/I Peter 4:19

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4. Saying Thanks -- Ephesians 5:17,20/I Thessalonians 5:18

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5. Submitting -- Ephesians 5:17,21/I Peter 2:13-15

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#### V. The Blessings Of Doing God's Will

Obedience brings blessing! This is one of the great themes of Scripture. Just like the obedient child receives special privileges from his parents, so the obedient child of God receives special privileges (blessings) from his Heavenly Father. Hebrews 13:21 and Philippians 2:13 tell us that doing the will of God brings God pleasure. For this reason, blessings follow those who do His will.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Blessings Of Doing God's Will?

1. John 7:17

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2. Ephesians 6:6-8

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3. I Peter 2:15

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4. Matthew 12:50

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5. I John 3:22

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Knotty Oak Baptist Church  
Practical Bible Doctrine  
The Believer And God's Authority

I. God's Divine Authority

There is a bumper sticker that says, "God is Lord." This may seem to be a self-evident truth, but it is a truth that we must be constantly reminded of. The combination of fleshly desires and worldly thinking and Satan's temptations must always be resisted by reminding ourselves that God is Lord. He alone is to be obeyed. In fact, the only things we are to be doing are things he asked permitted us to do.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Authority of God?

1. Isaiah 46:9-11

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2. II Chronicles 20:6

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3. Deuteronomy 6:17

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4. I Samuel 15:22,23

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5. Acts 5:29

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## II. The Basis Of God's Authority

In addition to the very fact that God is God, there are many other reasons why believers ought to submit to the authority of the Lord. It must grieve God when He sees a people that not only disregard His awesome person in their decisions, but disregard His magnificent works as well. Our obedience to God should not be out of obligation only, but out of thoughtful appreciation as well.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the basis of God's authority?

1. God is our Proprietor -- Genesis 14:22

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2. God is our Potentate -- Matthew 6:33

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3. God is our Purchaser -- I Corinthians 6:19,20

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4. God is our Potter -- Isaiah 64:8

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5. God is our Protector -- John 10:4,27

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## III. God's Delegated Authorities

One of the reasons God exerts authority over His creation is that He wants His will done in this world. This is a good thing because God's will is always best for all concerned. However, the will of God cannot be done where there is chaos and confusion. For this reason, God has delegated authorities in various realms of life for the maintenance of order and supervision of activities.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to God's delegated authorities?

1. Parental Authority -- Ephesians 6:1

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2. Civil Authority -- Romans 13:1

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3. Spiritual Authority -- Hebrews 13:17

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4. Spousal Authority -- I Peter 3:1

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5. Employer Authority -- Colossians 3:22

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#### IV. Respecting God's Authorities

The issue of how to treat authorities is a sensitive one. Because authorities sometimes abuse their authority, or err in their judgment, or make unpopular decisions, it is no wonder that God's delegated authorities are often spoken of in uncomplimentary terms. However, the Scriptures are clear that God not only wants His authorities obeyed, but respected as well.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to respecting God's authorities?

1. Ephesians 6:2

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2. Romans 13:7

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3. I Timothy 5:17

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4. Ephesians 5:33

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5. I Timothy 6:1

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#### V. Results Of Obeying God's Authorities

Whenever we obey God in any area of life, we are blessed in some way for it. In addition, because God's will has been done, there are other positive developments that will result from our faithfulness to the Lord. Doing what God wants brings pleasure to God, benefit to others, and blessings to ourselves. When we obey God's delegated authorities, wonderful things result.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to the Results of Obeying God's Authorities?

1. Ephesians 6:3

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2. Romans 13:3

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3. Hebrews 13:17

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4. I Peter 3:1

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5. I Timothy 6:1

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Knotty Oak Baptist Church  
Practical Bible Doctrine  
The Believer And Marriage

I. The Purpose Of Marriage

One cause of the high divorce rate is that many people marry for the wrong reasons. Some marry for looks, others for money, and others for escape. However, marriage is a sacred institution that God established for several particular reasons. When single people learn these reasons, it helps them find the right mate. When married people learn these reasons, it helps them find true happiness and stability.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Purpose Of Marriage?

1. Genesis 2:18a

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2. Genesis 2:18b

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3. Genesis 1:28

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4. Ecclesiastes 4:12

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5. Ephesians 6:2,4

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## II. The Bond Of Marriage

It is never God's will that husbands and wives should divorce each other. However, the Lord does *permit* divorce under certain carefully prescribed circumstances (Matthew 19:7,8). Still, God's plan is that the marriage bond be permanent. In order to make permanency the rule rather than the exception, God binds the marriage with three cords that are woven together and then bonded together.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Bond Of Marriage?

1. Ecclesiastes 4:12

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2. Mark 10:9

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3. Romans 7:2

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4. Genesis 2:24

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5. Colossians 2:2

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## III. The Godly Husband

In order for a marriage to be all that God wants it to be (enjoyable, satisfying, and fruitful), it is important that both husband and wife be Godly Christians. The model for marriage is Christ and the church (His Bride), which elevates the responsibilities of each spouse to a higher plane than is normally considered. This standard is not arrived at easily or naturally, and therefore requires diligent work by each.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Godly Husband?

1. I Corinthians 7:33

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2. Ephesians 5:28

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3. Ephesians 5:29

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4. I Peter 3:7

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5. Proverbs 31:28

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#### IV. The Godly Wife

Marriage is not a “fifty-fifty” proposition, but a “one hundred-one hundred” proposition. In other words, even if a husband is not meeting the Godly standard set forth in Scripture, God still expects the wife to diligently strive to meet that standard herself. While it is true that it is easier for a Christian woman to be what she should be if her husband is what he should be, it is usually up to the wife to take the first steps.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Godly Wife?

1. I Corinthians 7:34b

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2. Ephesians 5:22

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3. Ephesians 5:33b

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4. I Peter 3:1-4

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5. Proverbs 31:10-12

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#### V. The Ingredients Of A Happy Marriage

In its essence, a biblically based and spiritually blessed marriage is a relationship between a man and a woman that is steadily increasing both in its intimacy and in its mutual enjoyment to both spouses. Remember that the marriage relationship is modeled after Christ and the church – and *this* relationship is supposed to be constantly growing in the aforementioned areas.

What do the following verses teach us with regard to The Ingredients Of A Happy Marriage?

1. Matthew 6:33

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2. Philippians 2:3

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3. Ephesians 4:26

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4. Galatians 6:9

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5. Proverbs 15:1

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Knotty Oak Baptist Church  
Practical Bible Doctrine  
The Believer And Finances

I. Cautions Against Materialism

1. Luke 16:13

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2. Proverbs 23:4

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3. Proverbs 28:22

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4. Matthew 6:19,20

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5. I Timothy 6:9,10

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## II. Exhortations Toward Liberality

1. Proverbs 11:25

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2. Proverbs 31:10,30

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3. Galatians 2:10

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4. Ephesians 4:28

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5. James 3:15,16

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## III. Obligations To The Lord

1. Psalm 96:8

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2. Malachi 3:8-10

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3. Matthew 22:21

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4. I Corinthians 16:1,2

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5. Galatians 6:6

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IV. Admonitions To Contentedness

1. Proverbs 16:8

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2. Luke 3:14

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3. Philippians 4:11,12

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4. I Timothy 6:8

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5. Hebrews 13:5

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V. Obstacles To Avoid

1. Luke 12:16-21

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2. Luke 16:10,11

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3. I Timothy 6:17

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4. James 2:5,6

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5. Revelation 3:16,17

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