## Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

3.14.2021

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he would have you to see through the study of Gods word.

What is good and acceptable in the sight of God

## 1 Timothy 2: 1 - 6

What would we consider to be normal behavior in our Christian life, as well as in our maturing faith in Christ. What we consider to be normal, and what the word of God tells us should be our normal, often times, brings about great inconsistency in our spiritual life. We must hold fast to the sound teachings of the word of God and avoid those who teach others without having any actual knowledge of the word. Therefore, the first order of business between us and God, is prayer. The church, or the body of Christ, has a great need for prayer. It is the importance, and power, of fervent prayer that will keep us from deception, and that will help us to make petitions and thanksgivings, on behalf of all men. Our approach to God in our prayer life should be one of reverence, and thankfulness, humility, trust, and love. We are called to pray for all men, those who have salvation, those who do not, and even those who despitefully use us. As believers we have an unlimited access to the throne of God, to come humbly, but boldly, and all to the glory of God.

1 Timothy 2: 1 - 6,....I exhort therefore, that first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men....for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our savior, who will have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ, who gave himself a ransom for all....

So, what is it that the word teaches, that would be good and acceptable in the sight of God. It is, that all men everywhere would be saved. For we as believers to be obedient, to God, in fulfilling his desire of salvation for all humanity, then we must have normalcy in our spiritual life. This means serving the Lord with consistency, and without distraction.

Hebrews 9: 14 - 15,....how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God....for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death....that they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance....

Serving the Lord with consistency and without distraction starts with salvation. Salvation was made possible through Christ, offering himself as the full ransom price for the sin of the world, through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit of God. Through this, we are cleansed inwardly, and we are cleansed forever. We are covered in Christ righteousness forever, purified by the shed blood of the lamb of God. We must never minimize the incredible sacrifice that Christ made on our behalf, and the tremendous power that the blood of Christ has, on the lives of all who trust in his redemptive saving grace.

Hebrews 2: 9,....but we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor, that he by the grace of God, should taste death for every man....

Christ, who is eternal God, chose to come to earth, chose to follow the plan of redemption that was put in place by the Father, he humbled himself in submission, and in complete obedience to the Father, willing to suffer the death of the cross on behalf of all the fallen human race. Christ tasted death for all mankind and paid the full and final price for the sin of the world. Therefore, all who believe on him will be saved, and removed from the curse of sin, death, and hell forever, to the glory of God the Father.

Through supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, we have become part of the body of Christ. This puts prayer as a priority in our life. We do not just see the need for prayer in a general sense, but we see the tremendous need for prayer in our relationship which is for the lost and unsaved. We must pray that all people may be reached with the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and that prayer and meditation in the word of God will prevail in the church.

James 5: 16,....Confess your faults one to another, and pray for one another....the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much....

Prayer is a necessity and it points us to the fact that we can freely come before God at anytime or any place, to talk with him on behalf of all others. Even though we have different needs at different times, at all times, we need God, so therefore we need to pray. God will use all those who have accepted, and experienced his saving grace in Christ Jesus, to proclaim and explain the message of salvation to others.

Matthew 9: 37 - 38,....then saith he to his disciples, the harvest is truly plenteous, but the laborers are few, pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest....

When we pray, God will burden our hearts, so that we might have compassion, not only for the saints, but for the lost and unsaved, so that we might begin to preach and to teach the gospel of salvation to all who will hear. The solution to our overwhelming needs, it is prayer. When just one person commits to serving God and bringing the gospel of his word to humanity, it will impact many lives. To many times we are too caught up in our own personal needs, that we forget about those who are spiritually lost. All who have received the saving grace of Jesus Christ are called to be a laborer, by praying, by serving, by giving of oneself, and by doing the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

Colossians 4: 2-6,....Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving, withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ....that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak. Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man....

We are to live our lives in Christ so that those who have not yet believed, will see Gods word through us, that we might be a reflection of our relationship with Christ to others. Our private walk with God in prayer, is the foundation for our spiritual witness. Before we talk to people about God, we must first go to God in prayer, concerning our witness, to these people. To be an effective witness, we must be cheerful, and joyful, in our salvation, always showing the peace of Christ within our life. Learning obedience, through the wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of Gods word, will give unto us the witness that we need, to show that which is the reality of Christ in our daily lives. All this we do with thanksgiving in our hearts, praising and giving glory unto God.

**2 Corinthians 9:** 10-15,....now he that ministereth seed to the sower....increases the fruits of your righteousness....being enriched in everything....which causeth through us thanksgiving to God....and by our prayer for you....for the exceeding grace of God in you. Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift....

Christ Jesus was Gods free gift of grace to every member of humanity. A gift that is not accepted is still a gift, given freely, with no strings attached. Some will accept, while there will be others that will reject it, but none the less it is still a free gift given to all. With the acceptance of this free gift will come every other good thing that pertains to our spiritual life, which is, eternal life, eternal love, eternal hope, eternal joy, eternal peace, eternal prosperity, and eternal grace. While there is life, this precious gift of God will be available to whosoever will accept. Thanks be to God for his indescribable, unspeakable, precious gift.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.



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