

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

3.27.2022

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 God's word.

Members of Christ

1 Corinthians 6: 12 – 20

We live in a world where all of humanity, non-believers and believers alike will often time follow selfish lustful ways and then seek to justify those means to try and maintain social moral standards. This comes due to a lack of understanding. Non-believers have no moral understanding only worldly morality. Believers should have wisdom and knowledge which comes from a desire to study and meditate on God's word but may still lack understanding. Without understanding, continuing to justify self-righteous actions remains a reality in life. Maturing spiritually will help the believer to understand that God does not free mankind from sin just so they might fall back under the power of that sin. Spiritual growth should start simple, but over time it should lead to a greater understanding of the word, and greater spiritual assurance. The message of hope which comes through the word of God leads to the assurance of hope. Believers have the assurance that as they hear the promises of God's word, and respond in faith believing, that God will pour out his mercy and grace and establish them in his righteousness. It is then that we realize that as being part of the body of Christ we find that our ultimate spiritual fulfillment comes from pleasing and glorifying him.

Hebrews 6: 11 – 12,....we desire that every one of you do show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end, that ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises....

We cannot earn our salvation by good works, but we are called to pursue good works through Christ. We are given the ability to see a full, mature, purposeful faith and hope in Christ. Growing in faith, growing in the truth of God's word, and growing in the service of his work, assures us that we are following the will of God. Therefore, we must not become lazy in our spiritual life. Sluggishness in our spiritual life will cause us to drift away spiritually, which means that we will never reach the fullness of our spiritual maturity. For this reason, the Holy Spirit urges us through the word to not only seek after the will of God, but to hasten our progress toward the goal of fulfilling our spiritual maturity in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 6: 12,....all things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient, all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any....

In the life of a believer, what is acceptable and what is not acceptable. There are many that teach on this subject but sadly they teach their own self-righteous opinion. These are false teachers that practice in sin but use the word of God to justify their actions. We are taught liberty and freedom in Christ in our salvation, but we must not let our freedom in Christ cause us to become emotionally or spiritually bound or entrapped in religious rituals and regulations which can become an obsession in our life. There are many things that may seem to be permissible in our Christian life, but they may not be profitable for our spiritual growth or the spiritual wellbeing of others. Our liberty or freedom in Christ may seem to be perfectly legitimate, but all the while deflecting our attention away from Christ. If what we feel to be legitimate actions are going to cause us to stumble in our Christian life, we should be strong enough in our spiritual maturity to recognize the problem and quickly turn away from it. As believers we must remember that Christ has set us free from the restrictions of religious rituals and regulations so that we may enjoy the liberties of our salvation in him.

1 Corinthians 6: 13 – 14,....meats for the belly, and the belly for meats, but God shall destroy both it and them....the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body....God hath both raised up the Lord, and will raise up us by his own power....

One of the most common problems in the church today is the mis use of worldly quotations which are quoted as scriptural but can be found nowhere in God's word. If we are not careful, as believers, we will allow these quotations to creep into our minds and distort our spiritual beliefs. Through this passage of scripture, Paul warns the church, by an example of a physical desire, to show what effect sexual immorality can have on the life of a believer. Likewise, we as Christians use these same examples to put into perspective the effect of worldly sinfulness on our life in Christ. We are called by God to live up to who we are in Christ, and not to allow our worldly appetite to keep us from pursuing our spiritual purpose. We understand that all things of the world are temporary and will one day be destroyed by God. God would like for us to understand the importance of this body that we live in. A believer's body is meant for the Lord, and the Lord is meant to live within the believer's body.

Colossians 1: 16,....for by him were all things created....all things were created by him, and for him....

As believers do, we understand that nothing whatsoever can separate us from the love of God. In doing so, we realize all that Christ has done for mankind so that we may overcome the sinfulness that brought about this separation, we overcome by believing upon his name. For this reason, we give God all praise, honor, and glory, all the while recognizing every aspect of his righteousness.

Romans 11: 36,....for of him, and through him, and to him, are all things, to whom be glory forever, Amen.

1 Corinthians 6: 15 – 18,....know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ....know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body....but he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit....every sin that a man doeth is without the body....

Often time, when a sinner comes to know Christ, they may find it difficult to break away from the cultural lifestyle that they are living in. If there is no growth in our faith in Christ, and no spiritual maturity, then worldly deception may cause us to see no harm in the lifestyle in which we are living and cause us to assume that since these physical bodies will one day die, that it does not matter what we do with them. The bible tells us that our bodies do serve a purpose. These bodies are meant for the Lord's use, and therefore there should be no division in them due to sinfulness. Salvation is more than just an occasional prayer, more than just reading the word of God occasionally, more than just going to church occasionally, salvation is the beginning of an intimate relationship of our fellowship in Christ, and it begins with our obedience to his word. Our knowledge must not be rooted and grounded in our own opinion, but rather in God's word, which was established in the beginning.

1 Corinthians 6: 19 – 20,....know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own....for ye are bought with a price, therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are Gods....

As Christians, our bodies do not belong to us, but to God, therefore they do not exist for our own pleasure. God lives in every believer by the Holy Spirit, so these bodies should be used to glorify God and not to satisfy ourselves. Christ said, I will build my church, so as Christians we are being built up by God into a holy temple. Believers are called to honor God with their bodies as well as by their spirit and soul and are not to become slaves of the flesh with its ungodly pursuits. As we come to recognize the privilege that we have, as being a temple for the living God, let us flee from the sins that desecrate our bodies and live our lives unto the Lord, for we are a chosen people for God's possession.

James 1: 17 – 18,....every good gift and every perfect gift is from above....of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures....

God is the giver of every good thing in our lives. God gave unto us a new life in Christ, he in his grace saved us according to his own free will. No matter how dark our circumstances may seem, nothing can change the gift of love that God has given unto us in Christ.

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.

Tim Hughes

304.376.3177 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

<https://hollowowlfarm.com/>

