



## “Living A Life Pleasing to God”

Bishop Frank and JoeNell Summerfield

**Texts: Ephesians 5:1-33, Ephesians 6:1-9, Colossians 3:1-25, II Corinthians 6:14-18, II Corinthians 7:11**

As we look closely at the Apostle Paul's writings and teachings in his letters to the newly formed churches in Ephesus, Colosse, and Corinth we will see that he put a lot of emphasis on **Living a Life Pleasing To God** because the people in these newly formed Faith in Jesus Christ churches all had people that had never really lived their lives with emphasis on Pleasing God. At best they had barely worshipped pagan false gods with no focus on holiness, purity, and biblical Godly living.

When we become born again as Paul teaches in II Corinthians 5:17-21 we become new creatures that seek to serve and please Almighty God. We begin to see the advantages of leaving our old worldly sinful life and living the new Godly life. In fact we even begin to see the rewards for seeking God and His divine will and **Living a Life Pleasing to Him**.

**Proverbs 16:7 When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.**

**Living a Life Pleasing To God** can cause your enemies to be peaceful toward you.

When we decide to **Live a Life Pleasing to**

**God** we focus on living spiritually and not yield to carnality and our flesh weakness which only leads to death and defeat.

**Romans 8:5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.**

**6: For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.**

**7: Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.**

**8: So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.**

Since we desire to **Live a Life Pleasing to God** we seek to be led by the Holy Spirit and His instructions rather than our lower carnal flesh nature.

When you want to live to please God you seek Him diligently through prayer, praise, worshiping, hearing the spoken word, fellowship with other believers at the house of God, and studying and meditating in His word. Look at the rewards that come from doing this.

**Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**

In Paul's writing and teaching to the new

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Christians in Ephesus he teaches the unmarried singles the specifics of how to live a Godly life that pleases God and causes blessings and success. He directs them to be followers of God as dear submissive children and walk in love. It's a known fact that it takes Godly, submissive to God, holy singles to produce Godly, submissive to God, holy marriages and families.

**Ephesians 5:1 Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;**

**2: And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.**

**3: But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;**

**5: For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.**

In verses 6-13 Paul emphasizes the need to not associate or fellowship with ungodly people who are disobedient to God's word. He also stresses to walk in light to **Live a Life Pleasing to God.**

In verses 24-33 Paul's does detailed teaching

on the lifestyle that **Christian** marriages should contain. He gives clear emphasis on the duties and behavior of the wife and the husband that's necessary to please God.

Notice how the first thing he instructs husbands and wives to do is submit to each other in fear, reverence, and respect for God. In other words the marriage must be based from the start on having a fear, respect, and reverence for God so that you respect each other in a Godly way at all times.

In verses 22-24 he teaches wives in detail what's involved in submitting to their husbands according to the will of God. In verses 25-29 he gives husbands very clear and detailed instructions on how to love their wives the same as Jesus Christ loves his bride the church.

The church of the Lord Jesus Christ must realize that these teachings obligate born again believers to conduct their marriage exactly as these verses instruct in order to have a marriage and Life That Pleases God. Too many so called Christians are violating God's word by not honoring their marriage as God does according to Hebrews 13:4, which displeases God. If God didn't intend for born again believers to honor their marriages He never would have inspired Paul to teach the

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church the things he taught in these verses. Even though the world does not follow God's plan for marriage, Christians are obligated to do so in order to please God.

Take a careful look at these next verses and how clear and serious they are.

**Ephesians 5:28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.**

**29: For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:**

**30: For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.**

**31: For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.**

The way God ordained marriage both people become one flesh which means that separation and divorce would cause a dividing of one body in half. In reality cutting a live physical body in half would cause both halves to die.

**32: This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.**

**33: Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she**

**reverence her husband.**

In Ephesians 6:1-9 Paul teaches children how to obey and honor their parents in the Lord to be blessed. He teaches Christians how to serve and work for people as though they are working for God, and employers how to treat workers as God desires.

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