

## **A LIFE WORTH LIVING** **(John 10:10)**

### **I. Signs of a positive mindset.**

- A. Those that have the right type thinking and actions are not hard to spot.
  - 1. They live lives of joy and peace.
  - 2. They are the ones who have figured out that there is an abundant life for them and it can be seen in what they do or have done with their lives.
- B. These Christians have figured out how to deny self.
  - 1. The third beatitude is “Blessed are the meek...”
  - 2. The meek are those who have denied self and put their strength under God’s control.
  - 3. Their wants and desires take a backseat to the desires of God for their lives (Matthew 16:24-25).
  - 4. They have put to death the old man and left him buried.
  - 5. By doing this, they commit themselves fully to carrying out the will of Christ in their lives (Luke 6:46).
- C. These Christians have come to know God (John 17:3).
  - 1. Remember 1 John 2:3.
  - 2. The only way this can ever be fully accomplished is through studying God’s word intently (2 Timothy 2:15).
  - 3. God reveals Himself through His word and allows us to get to know Him.
  - 4. Christians such as this use God’s word as a lamp and light for their lives.
- D. These Christians have learned to serve God in every situation.
  - 1. With them, Christianity is not only when it is easy, but at all times.
  - 2. They have followed the command of Paul to the Romans (Romans 12:2).
  - 3. They have learned to trust in God’s power (Ephesians 3:20).
    - a. They have seen His answers to their prayers.
    - b. They have seen His faithfulness to His people recorded in scripture.
- E. These Christians are active in the work of the body to which they belong.
  - 1. Ephesians 4:15-16.
  - 2. We all have different roles that must be filled for the body to be healthy and act properly.
  - 3. These Christians have found their roles and are fulfilling them.
  - 4. They get involved in the works and activities of the congregation and in evangelism.
  - 5. They have given their whole body, soul, strength and mind to the Lord.
- F. These Christians face death in a different way than others.
  - 1. They understand that death is not the end so they keep that positive mindset they had through life even in death.

2. The crown of life awaits them and they look forward to wearing it.
3. They can say with Paul that to be with Christ is far better.
4. They can say with John, "Come Lord Jesus."

## II. **Developing a positive mindset.**

- A. How does one go about obtaining this type thinking?
  1. We are surrounded by negativity and bashing of God.
  2. Many of us allow that which surrounds us to influence us.
  3. How do we overcome that?
- B. The first thing one must do is to make up one's mind to live this life that is worth living.
  1. Some people say they want the Christian life but still live partly in the world.
  2. These are miserable Christians.
  3. They have never truly dedicated themselves fully to Christianity and they are unhappy and negative, always seeing what is wrong with the church and not what is right.
  4. Our minds have to be transformed.
- C. We must put a plan in place to have our minds transformed.
  1. Ephesians 4:23.
  2. Notice Luke 11:24-26.
    - a. The man did a great thing in removing the uncleanness and cleaning up what was left.
    - b. The problem is that he didn't replace it with something good.
- D. There must be daily study of God's word.
  1. We set ourselves up for failure by not taking in the only weapon strong enough to fend off Satan.
  2. God's word is our source of direction and inspiration.
- E. Use the power of prayer.
  1. God wants us to cast our cares on Him and we do that through prayer.
  2. We are to pray for wisdom to be able to deal with the temptations of life (James 1:2-5).
  3. The great men and women of the Bible, as well as Jesus Himself, were people who relied on prayer.
- F. Associate with Christians who already have this mindset.
- G. Don't quit.
  1. Many Christians get discouraged and quit.
  2. We are in a marathon, not a race and we must run with endurance this race that is before us.

## III. **Blessings of a positive mindset.**

- A. It allows us to be pleasing to God.
  1. We show ourselves to be God's servants by pleasing Him (Galatians 1:10).
  2. Negative living is contrary to God's will for us.
- B. Living this way brings about peace of mind and happiness.
  1. We know we are right with God living in this manner.

- 2. We truly know we are saved.
- C. Peter says those that live this way have an “unshakable joy” (1 Peter 1:8).
- D. This mindset allows us to overcome Satan (James 4:7; Ephesians 6:11-18).
- E. This mindset allows us to produce the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-24).
- F. This lifestyle brings glory to God.
- G. We will be rewarded when this life is over (Revelation 2:10).

**IV. Reasons to have a positive mindset.**

- A. We have a God that loves us (John 3:16) and who lives.
- B. We have a Savior (Revelation 1:5-6).
- C. We have a Bible that gives us all we need (2 Peter 1:3).
- D. We have been saved from our sins (1 John 5:13).
- E. We have access to great power (Ephesians 3:20).
- F. We have the body of Christ (Acts 2:47).
- G. We have hope (Romans 8:24).
- H. We have the promise of heaven.

From a bible class lesson by J.J. Turner.