

Come let us Grow Together: Behavior Modification

Come let us Grow Together is a weekly series that deals with the many topical categories that exist within the Word of God. The purpose of this series is to grow in wisdom, knowledge and understanding in things pertaining to God.

As we know there are many scriptures in the Bible. Many of which if applied would bring forth drastic changes in one's behavior. Yet we as every day people find them difficult to remember at times and our focus is often distracted by something else. So why do we continue to struggle with keeping the scriptures alive in our life as we continue our daily lives as followers of Christ?

There is tremendous discipline that needs to be exercised to follow after the path of life that was laid out for us by Jesus Christ and his Apostles as well as his disciples. The good news in this is as followers of Jesus Christ we can fail to apply the scriptures and continue to fall over and over and over again and the Lord Jesus grants us grace to ask for forgiveness and we try again.

How many of us can truly say that we have select scriptures in our life that control our behavior and we are consciously working on applying them continuously in our lives so that we can perfect them? Martial artists train with great discipline and fervor. Another words great passion and pain goes into becoming the best or just even rising to newer heights. But consider with me for a moment how much different your life would be and of those around you if you just applied these five examples I now share with you.

Example 1

And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. (Mark 12:29-31)

Example 2

But in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. (Philippians 2:3) And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. (Luke 6:31)

Example 3

Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. (Prov 2:2-5)

When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee: To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from

the man that speaketh froward things; Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness; (Prov 2:10-13)

Example 4

Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways. Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not. Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the LORD. But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death. (Prov 8:32-36)

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her. Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is every one that retaineth her. (Prov 3:13-18)

Example 5

Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. (Prov 3:3-6)

The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever. They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied. But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the LORD shall be as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away. The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth. For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth; and they that be cursed of him shall be cut off. The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand. I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed. Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore. For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off. The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever. The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment. The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.