



As believers in God and Christ, what should the main focus of our life be?

Should we consider our knowledge of God at salvation to be sufficient, stay where we're at and simply attend church on Sundays?

Mat 6:33 enjoins us to "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness." This implies we should be seeking to know more about God, His will, how we can be true believers in Christ, and grow so as to become useful and dedicated to serving Him.

How can we strive to know more about God each and every day?

Paul in Rom 12:2 answered this; "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

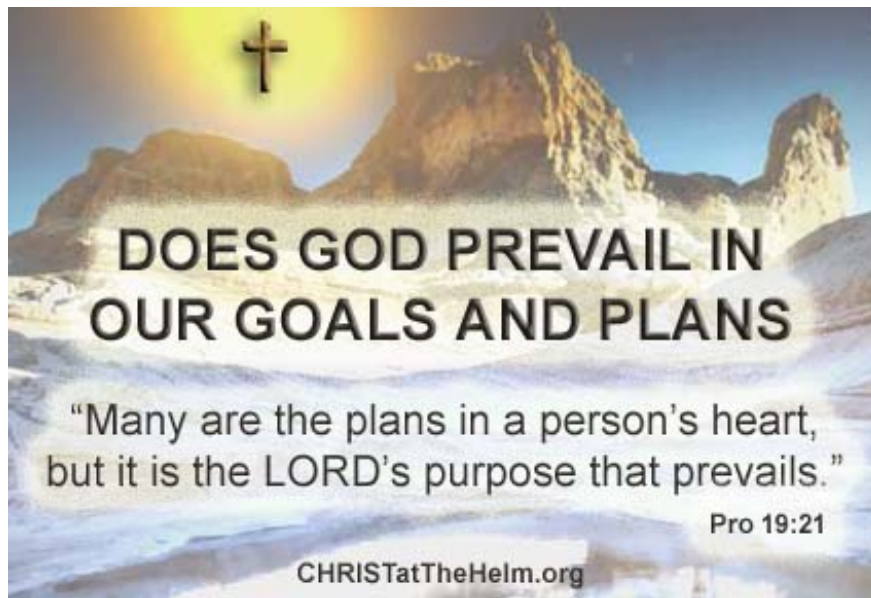
Then again Paul in Eph 5:17 added, "Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

God, through the prophet in Jeremiah 29:13 said, "And you will seek Me and find *Me*, when you search for Me with all your heart."

Finally, Jesus put in clear terms what seeking God is all about in Luke 9:23, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."

The big question to ask ourselves is... Are we truly seeking to know, learn from and follow Christ through His Word?

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Obviously, if our lives are dedicated to follow Christ through His Word, all of our life’s goals and plans should line up with God’s master plan for believers, and surely not contradict God’s Word.

For this reason, Paul said in Philip. 3:14, “I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” In fact, Paul not only said it, but also proved it throughout his ministry for Christ.

Pro 16:3 says, “Commit your works to the LORD, and your thoughts will be established.” In all truth, shouldn’t we seek God in making our life plans, even to the point of submitting our daily objectives to the Lord?

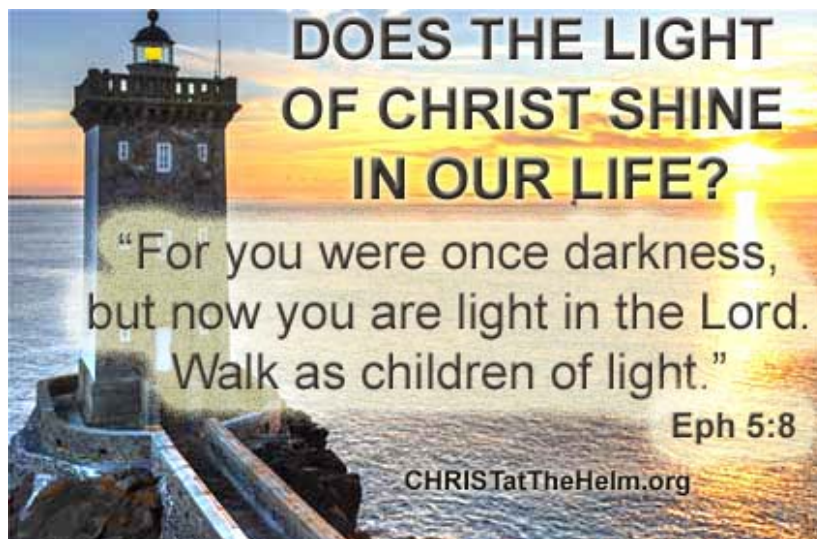
Psalm 37:4-5 highlights it this way: “Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring *it* to pass.”

If we’re concerned that God might not agree with what we’re considering to do, shouldn’t it be a good enough reason to seek God before going any further?

Jer 29:11 describes God’s heart and desire to bless us this way: “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

Are our goals and plans set by the world’s standards, or are we focused on honoring and serving God through them?

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Sometimes, through sharing the gospel with people we know, they respond that they do believe in Jesus. Yet, their lives and actions do not project a renewed life in Christ. While they might not be outlandishly promoting sin, they live as if they belong to a sect we could call "Christians Anonymous"!

Jesus in Mat 5:14 said, "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden."

Then Acts 13:47 add, "For so the Lord has commanded us: 'I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, that you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth.'"

In essence, if we are in Christ and saved through truly believing in Him, shouldn't we follow our Lord in living according to His will, be His witnesses to the world in shining His light through our lives?

Again, Jesus in John 8:12 clearly stated, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

The apostle in 1Peter 2:9 declared that as believers, "You *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

Does our life line up with Pro 4:18, "But the path of the just *is* like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day?"

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Are we true within our hearts to our belief in God and Christ?

Do we realize, as Paul said in 1Cor 6:20, "You were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's"? Can we affirm that deep inside our hearts, we do as Jesus said in Mat 22:37, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind?"

In other words, are we truly committed to Christ, so we can say, as Psalm 119:11 states, "Your Word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You?" It is of prime importance to God that our hearts be true to His Word so as to not deceive ourselves.

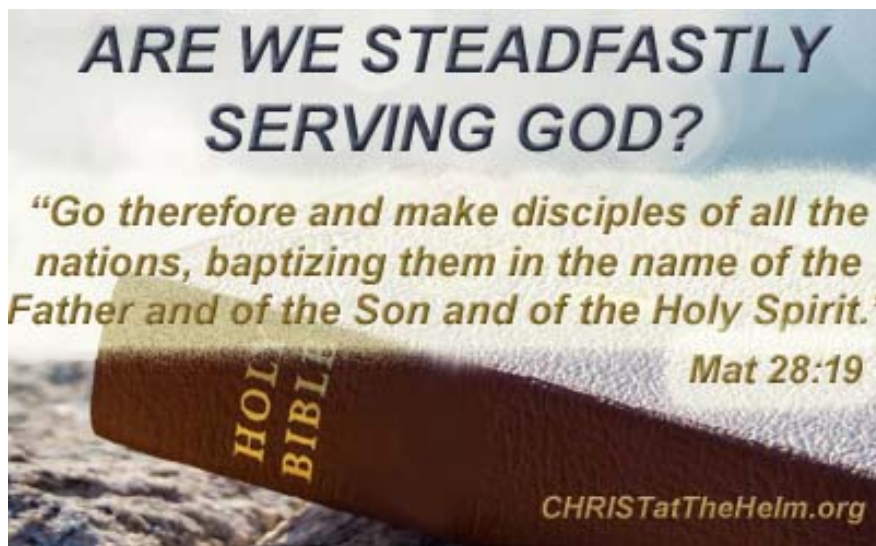
Pro 4:23 enjoins us to "Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it *spring* the issues of life." Do we realize that the thoughts we entertain become who we really are, and that God sees deep into our hearts?

Finally, the apostle in 1John 5:6-7 warned us: "If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."

Are we true to our confession of faith in Christ, so as to seek, study and follow what God's Word teaches us?

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The Great Commission from Jesus, to go into all the world to be His witnesses, is not limited to the then disciples and apostles of Christ, but as well to all who bear the Name of Christ in their hearts. The world encompasses anyone we interact with, be it our family, friends, neighbors or co-workers.

Why?

1Peter 2:9: "But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

As born again believers, we must become His servants, just as Jesus said in Mark 10:45, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

If our Lord humbled Himself to the point of dying for us, shouldn't we also be committed to serve Him so others can be saved, encouraged, challenged and, as 1Peter 4:10 tells us, "As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God"?

The reason Paul said in 1Cor 15:58, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

Are we steadfastly serving God in being His witness to the world around us?

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