



If we're to focus our lives on following God in Christ, we must seek God's will to follow the path of righteousness.

Here's what scripture declares on this:

Isaiah 55:6: "Seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near."

Deut. 4:29: "But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find *Him* if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul."

Jer. 29:13: "You will seek Me and find *Me*, when you search for Me with all your heart."

1Chron. 22:19: "Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God."

Psalms 27:4: "One *thing* I have desired of the LORD, that will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple."

What did Jesus teach us on this?

Mat 7:7-8: "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened."

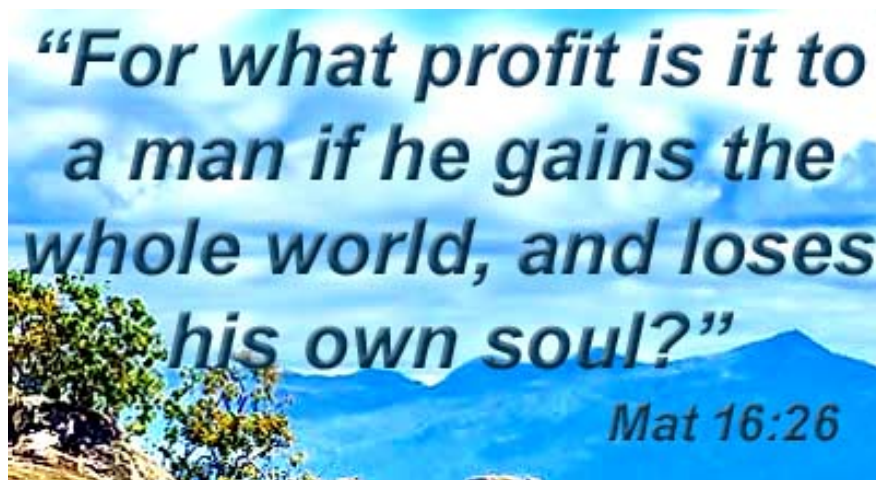
Why?

Psalms 14:2: "The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God."

Am I committed to seek God's will so I focus my life to follow Christ?

Wishing you A Blessed and Spiritually Prosperous New Year!

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If we profess to believe in God and follow Christ, why must we focus our lives to seek His will and live by His Word?

Pro 2:1-5: "My son, if you receive my words, and treasure my commands within you, so that you incline your ear to wisdom, *and* apply your heart to understanding; yes, if you cry out for discernment, *and* lift up your voice for understanding, if you seek her as silver, and search for her as *for* hidden treasures; then you will understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God."

1John 3:3: "And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure."

Philip. 3:12: "Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me."

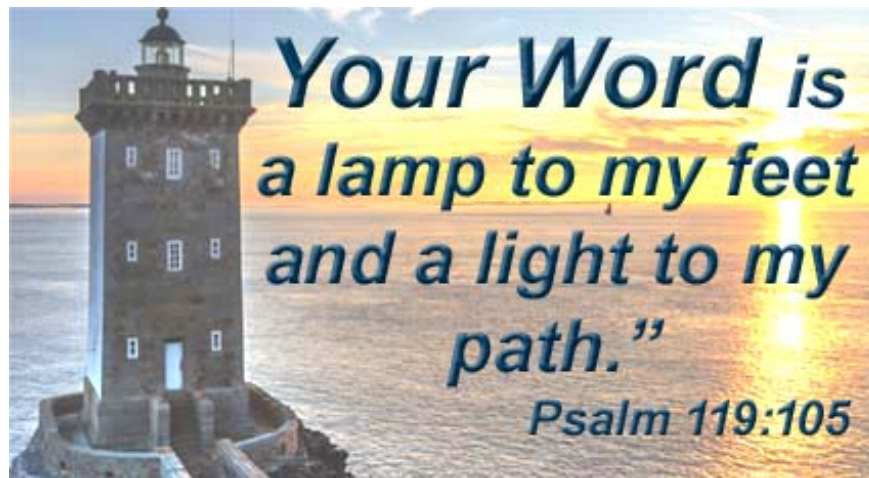
Philippians 3:20: "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."

Rom 8:5: "For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those *who live* according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit."

The reason Jesus said in Mat 6:21: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Food for thought: Is my heart focused on God or am I walking one foot in the world and claiming to believe in Christ?

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How can I be steadfast and committed to focus my life on Christ and live by His Word?

Luke 9:23: "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."

Titus 2:11-12: "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age."

Col 3:23-24: "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ."

Rom 12:2: "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."

2Tim 3:16-17: "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

Proverbs 16:3: "Commit your works to the LORD, and your thoughts will be established."

1Cor 10:31: "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

Do I live with Christ as the ultimate focus of my life?

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How could we define the true steps involved in focusing our life on God in following Christ?

Col 3:1: "If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God."

Col 2:6-7: "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving."

Hebrews 12:1-2: "Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Philippians 3:13-14: "Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:8: "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

Is the focus of my life on following Christ, or is my heart focused on this world?

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Obviously, if we're to be committed to follow God and keep our focus on Christ, the one basic element required is to trust God and abide by His Word.

How is that achieved?

Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

Matthew 6:25(a): "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on."

Why?

Mat 6:25(b): Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"

Isaiah 41:10: "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

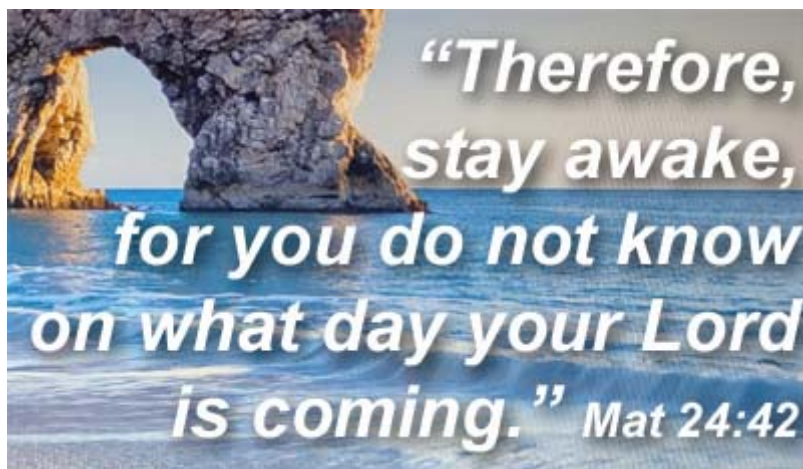
Isaiah 26:3: "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you."

What's more?

Hebrews 11:6: "But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

Do I trust God entirely, even with my life?

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The tendency of this world is that we should live as we choose and let other people do the same; live and let live, in other words. However, as believers in Christ, we must always be watchful of the enemy's pitfalls trying to draw us away from God.

How?

Col 2:8: "Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ."

1Peter 5:8: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."

Hebrews 13:5: "*Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'*"

Why?

2Tim 2:4: "No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of *this* life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier."

Mat 6:24: "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other."

Rom 8:6: "For to be carnally minded *is* death, but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace."

Am I truly spiritually minded and on guard against falling into the traps of the enemy?

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