



THE FAMILY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

"We gather, we reach-out to share God's saving grace"

Basic Biblical Discipleship

Book 4

Topics:

13. Liberty In Christ
14. My Job & Employer
15. The Lost World
16. Judgment Seat of Christ

LESSON 13: LIBERTY IN CHRIST

Since All My Sins Are Forgiven, Am I Free to Do As I Please?

The New Testament is very clear that as saved people we are no longer bound by any law to please God, but we are under His grace. Many people, however, takes this freedom as an opportunity to sin. Thinking they are free to do as they wish.

The purpose of this lesson is to help the individual understand just what his liberties in Jesus Christ are and what lines need to be drawn in his life relation to his actions as a child of God.

I – Am I free to do whatever I want?

- A. Personally, within your own life you are free to make your own choices.
John 8:36; Romans 14:22; Titus 1:15
- B. You are eternally secure in Jesus Christ. If you have genuinely placed your trust in Him as your Savior, you cannot go to hell. You will go to heaven regardless of what you do and whether you like it or not.
Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 2:8-9
- C. You are not bound by the Old Testament Law.
Romans 8:1-3; Galatians 3:24-25

II – HOWEVER

- A. The liberty you have in Jesus Christ gives you freedom to do what is right without the constraints of the Old Testament law as opposed to giving you license to sin or do what you want.
Galatians 5:13
- B. Your liberty is not so you can feed your sinful flesh.
Romans 6:12-18

- A. Crown of Righteousness
- B. Crown of Life
- C. Incorruptible Crown
- D. Crown of Rejoicing
- E. Crown of Glory

6. When a Christian focuses his attention on the return of the Lord Jesus Christ, he tends to develop some proper character qualities. List them.

- A. Patience
- B. Peace
- C. Joy
- D. Holiness
- E. Confidence
- F. Diligence in service
- G. Righteous living
- H. Faith even in difficult times

7. What is the difference between the rewards you receive on earth and the ones received at the Judgment Seat of Christ? On earth are all temporal and will perish but at the Judgment Seat of Christ are eternal and will never perish.

8. What is the greatest benefit in your life of constantly focusing on the return of the Lord Jesus Christ? You will naturally develop a desire to please God rather than men. Developing this attitude is the surest way to handle criticism.

9. Briefly explain the primary purpose of this lesson. To keep my focus on eternal matters by detailing my final accountability to the Lord Jesus Christ as His servant.

1 Peter 1:5-7

2. The rewards you receive on earth are all temporal and will perish. The rewards you receive at the Judgment Seat of Christ are eternal and will never perish. 2 Corinthians 4:17-5:4

3. By constantly focusing on the Judgment Seat of Christ, you will naturally develop a desire to please God rather than men. Developing this attitude is the surest way to handle criticism and opposition. 2 Corinthians 5:6-9; 1 Corinthians 7:23

THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST: LESSON 16

1. What group of people will be judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ?
All followers of Christ (Christians)
2. What will you be judged for at the Judgment Seat of Christ?
 - A. Your work as a servant of Jesus Christ.
 - B. the MOTIVE behind it and the quality as opposed to the quantity.
3. There are some things which you should beware of regarding the Judgment Seat of Christ. List them below.
 - A. Ashamed for not living for the Lord Jesus Christ at His appearing (1 John 2:28)
 - B. Suffering loss because their works were temporal and not eternal (1 Corinthians 3:15)
 - C. Losing rewards because they lived in sin rather than for Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:10; Galatians 6:7-8
4. The real servants of Jesus Christ will be revealed and the less sincere will be exposed. What are two principles to remember concerning this? Give a scripture reference for each.
 - A. Don't be fooled by outward appearances (Luke 16:15; 1 Corinthians 1:27-31)
 - B. Be sure to invest in heavenly rewards instead of earthly rewards (Matthew 6:19-20; Colossians 3:1-4)
5. There will be rewards available for those who are found to be faithful in their service to the Lord Jesus Christ. List the five crowns and describe briefly what they are given for.

C. Your liberty is so you can serve God. 1 Peter 2:16

III – How does my freedom affect me personally?

- A. You are free to make your own choices, but if you choose sin, you should be aware of the consequences.
 1. You will not bear fruit. John 15:1-8
 2. God will chasten you as His son. Hebrews 12:5-11
 3. God will allow you to reap as you have sown. Galatians 6:7-8
- B. God will get the glory from your life one way or another; either as a vessel of honor, or vessel of dishonor. The choice is yours.
 - 2 Timothy 2:20-21

IV – How does my freedom affect those around me?

- A. Your life will be a testimony for good or for bad whether you want it to be or not.
Romans 14:7
- B. You are to avoid things which could cause a weaker Christian to stumble in his faith.
Romans 14:13-15; 1 Corinthians 8:9-13
- C. You are to avoid things which appear wrong even though they may not be wrong.
Romans 14:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:22
- D. You are to have a good testimony toward both saved and lost people. Romans 14:18
 1. To the saved

Acts 6:1-3; 16:1-2

2. To the lost. Colossians 4:5; 1 Timothy 3:7
3. The purpose of this is to influence them for good in the Lord Jesus Christ. Acts 11:22-24; 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

V – What are the bounds of my liberty?

There are many gray areas in dealing with certain things you may or may not want to be involved in. In these cases, ask yourself some questions.

- A. Am I being brought under the power of something that should not be controlling my life? 1 Corinthians 6:12
- B. Am I edifying myself or others? 1 Corinthians 10:23
- C. Can I ask God to bless it with a clear conscience (Am I glorifying God with this? Colossians 3:17; Acts 24:16
- D. If the Lord returned at this moment, would I be ashamed? 1 Corinthians 1:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:23
- E. Would it cause a brother to stumble? Romans 14:13-15; Romans 15:1-2
- F. Would it be cause for a lost person to reject the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior? 1 Corinthians 10:31-33
- G. Does my conscience condemn me for it? 1 Peter 3:16; Hebrews 13:18; 1 Timothy 1:5.

1. Given to those who pastor or shepherd people in the word of God.
2. The New Testament is very clear that ALL saved people are to be actively teaching someone the word of God, not just preachers. Ephesians 4:11-16
3. It requires great wisdom which can only be obtained through the word of God. Proverbs 4:7-9

V. Basic Questions:

- A. Why should I be concerned about the Judgment Seat of Christ?
 1. The focus on the return of the Lord Jesus Christ is one of the most practical doctrines for everyday living in the Bible. Notice in the following verses how many practical character qualities are produced by focusing on the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - A. Patience – James 5:7-8; 2 Thessalonians 3:5
 - B. Peace – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
 - C. Joy – 1 Thessalonians 2:19
 - D. Holiness – 1 Thessalonians 3:13; 1 John 3:1-3
 - E. Confidence – Philippians 1:6; 1 John 2:28
 - F. Diligence in service – 1 Timothy 4:1-8
 - G. Righteous living – Titus 2:11-14
 - H. Faith even in difficult times – 1 Peter 1:5-7

IV – What rewards are obtainable?

The rewards obtainable at the Judgment Seat of Christ can be seen by studying the five crowns in the New Testament:

- A. Crown of Righteousness – 2 Timothy 4:8 – given to those who love the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 1. The Bible closes with “even so, come. Lord Jesus” Revelation 22:20
 2. Your overriding desire should be at all times to be with the Lord. Philippians 1:23-24
- B. Crown of Life – Revelation 2:10 – the martyr’s crown.
 1. Also seen in James 1:12 as given to those who endure temptation
 2. This is the same as the martyrs crown because you overcome temptation by dying to self. Romans 6:6-11
- C. Incorruptible Crown – 1 Corinthians 9:25 – given for temperance or moderation.
 1. The context of 1 Corinthians 9:18-27 deals with temperance or moderation in all matters (physical, spiritual and mental) to be a testimony to others.
 2. This is balanced by remembering that some have infirmities for the purpose of glorifying God. Paul is a great example. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
- D. Crown of Rejoicing – 1 Thessalonians 2:19 – the soul winner’s crown.
 1. Given to those who win to Jesus Christ. Philippians 4:1
 2. Called the crown of rejoicing because it produces rejoicing in heaven when someone gets saved. Luke 15:7
- E. Crown of Glory – 1 Peter 5:4 – the shepherd’s crown.

VI – Basic Questions

- A. How do I achieve a balance between my liberties and other people’s needs?

Only through the power of the Holy Spirit as you walk with Him.
2 Corinthians 3:6, 17; Romans 7:6

LIBERTY IN CHRIST: LESSON 13

1. As a Christian, are you free to do whatever you please? Briefly explain.
No, the liberty we have in Jesus Christ gives you freedom to do what is right without the constraints of the O.T. Law as opposed to giving you license to sin or do what you want. It is true that God gave us freedom to make our own choices but all our actions has also consequences.
2. The word of God draws some boundaries on our freedom. Explain those boundaries from each of the following verses:
 - A. Galatians 5:13 – do not use your freedom to indulge your sinful nature.
 - B. Romans 6:18 – we have been set free from sin. Your liberty is not so you can feed your sinful flesh.
 - C. 1 Peter 2:16 – your liberty is so you can serve God. Do not use your freedom as a cover up for evil.
3. When you choose to sin, what are the consequences of your choice?
 - A. You will not bear fruit (John 15:1-8)
 - B. God will discipline you as His son. Hebrews 12:5-11

- C. God will allow you to reap as you have sown – Galatians 6:7-8
- 4. God will get the glory from your life, either as a vessel of honor or as a vessel of dishonor.
- 5. List four ways that your freedom can influence people around you.
 - A. Your life will be a testimony for good or for bad whether you want it to be or not (Romans 14:7)
 - B. You are to avoid things which could cause a weaker Christian to stumble in his faith - Romans 14:13-15; 1 Corinthians 8:9-13
 - C. You are to avoid things which appear wrong even though thing may not be wrong – Romans 14:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:22
 - D. You are to have a good testimony toward both saved and lost people. Romans 14:18
- 6. You are to have a good testimony toward both saved and lost people. What is the reason for this? To influence them for good in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 7. List seven questions you can consider in setting the bounds of your personal liberty
 - A. Am I being brought under the power of something that should not be controlling my life? 1 Corinthians 6:12
 - B. Am I edifying myself or others? 1 Corinthians 10:23
 - C. Can I ask God to bless it with a clear conscience (Am I glorifying God with this? Colossians 3:17; Acts 24:16
 - D. If the Lord returned at this moment, would I be ashamed? 1 Corinthians 1:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:23
 - E. Would it cause a brother to stumble? Romans 14:13-15; Romans 15:1-2
 - F. Would it be cause for a lost person to reject the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior? 1 Corinthians 10:31-33
 - G. Does my conscience condemn me for it? 1 Peter 3:16; Hebrews 13:18; 1 Timothy 1:5.
- 8. What is the role of the Holy Spirit regarding your personal liberty? To help me achieve a balance between my liberties and other people's needs. To remind me my boundaries.

- 1. "Of what sort (what kind) it is" – 1 Corinthians 3:13
- 2. Heart attitudes will be more important than actual works. If the proper attitudes are developed, the proper works will come naturally.
1 Thessalonians 2:4; Ephesians 6:6

III – What are the negative consequences of this judgment?

- A. Paul said in speaking of the Judgment Seat of Christ in 2 Corinthians 5:11 that the terror of the Lord should motivate us to serve Him and persuade others. A Christian should never fear going to hell, but there are some things to beware of in relation to the final judgment. Some Christians will be found:
 - 1. Ashamed for not living for the Lord Jesus Christ at His appearing (1 John 2:28)
 - 2. Suffering loss because their works were temporal and not eternal (1 Corinthians 3:15)
 - 3. Losing rewards because they lived in sin rather than for Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:10; Galatians 6:7-8
- B. Remember that appearances are many times very deceiving.
 - 1. Don't be fooled by outward appearances, in your own life as well as the lives of others. Many people only APPEAR to be servants of the Lord. Luke 16:15; 1 Corinthians 1:27-31
 - 2. Be sure to invest in heavenly rewards instead of earthly rewards. The real servants of the Lord will be revealed at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Matthew 6:19-20; Colossians 3:1-4

LESSON 16: THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

Is There a Judgment Day for Christians, and What Will I Be Accountable For?

The Christians life is a series of paradoxical truths. The Bible says God's ways are not our ways because man looks on outward physical matters, while God looks at the heart attitude and operates in the spiritual realm. If you are going to serve God effectively, you must take your focus off of physical matters and concentrate on the spiritual. Your life will only make sense and have a purpose and meaning as you live in the spiritual realm, focused on eternal matters.

This lesson is designed to keep your focus on these eternal matters by detailing your final accountability to the Lord Jesus Christ as His servant.

1. What is the Judgment Seat of Christ?
 - A. God will judge every human being who has ever lived. Proverbs 29:26; Hebrews 9:27
 - B. God judged the sin of the world at Calvary. By placing your faith in Jesus Christ, you do not have to fear judgment of your sins because He took your judgment upon himself. 1 Peter 2:24; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:13
 - C. Your judgment will be for your service to the Lord Jesus Christ after your salvation. This event is called the Judgment Seat of Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:10; Romans 14:10
2. What will I be judged for at the Judgment Seat of Christ?
 - A. You will be judged for your work as a servant of Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 3:11-15
 - B. Your work will be judged for the MOTIVE behind it and the quality as opposed to the quantity

9. Briefly explain the primary purpose of this lesson. To know my freedom and boundary in my life as a follower of Jesus Christ.

Key memory verses: Galatians 5:13; Romans 15:1; 1 Corinthians 10:31

NOTE: In many churches today, some popular teachings are:

1. There is a set of rules a Christian must live by in order to please God.
2. You are free to do whatever you want regardless of how it affects other people
3. What you do has no real influence on other people.

From the Bible principles taught in this lesson, you should understand that these attitudes are wrong and why?

Write any questions you may have concerning the subjects in this lesson

LESSON 14: MY JOB AND EMPLOYER

What Should Be My Attitude Toward My Job and My Employer?

Since the Bible is the final authority in everything you will ever encounter in life, it is no surprise that it has a great deal to say about how you are to conduct yourself on your job. We spend about one fourth of our adult life on the job, and it is essential to your growth to learn how the Lord Jesus Christ would have you look at this area of responsibility. If you intend to be an effective servant of God, you must do so with all your life and not just three-fourths of it.

This lesson is designed to help you to be the type of employee (or employer) that God would have you to be.

I – ALL saved people are called to “full time Christian service”

- A. Ephesians 4:1 says your vocation is to serve Jesus Christ.

- B. The Bible is very clear that EVERY saved person is an integral part of the body of Christ and that each member’s contribution is important. God expects every Christian to be involved in the Lord’s work.
1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Ephesians 4:11-16

- C. Your service for God is to be at all times, not just when you go to church. 1 Peter 3:15; 2 Timothy 4:2

II – The primary purpose of your job is to support your ministry.

- A. Of course, your first ministry is to your family.
1 Timothy 5:8; 3:5

- B. Your second ministry is to your church family.
Galatians 6:10

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- C. Submit to their ordinances – 1 Peter 2:13-15
- D. Honor those in authority even the wicked, without partaking of their wickedness. Commit any adverse situations to God and let Him handle them – 1 Peter 2:17-23

8. Many Christian groups today are trying to force morality on people through the passing of laws. Why won’t this process work? Because man is by nature fallen and sinful and must be changed individually from the inside out, through a personal saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ (Titus 2:14)

9. Briefly explain the primary purpose of this lesson. For us to understand how to live a balanced and consistent life in order to influence people for the Lord Jesus Christ, without the world influencing us for evil.

Key memory verses: 2 Timothy 3:12; 1 John 2:15-16; 1 Corinthians 8:3

Some popular attitudes among Christians are:

- 1. Christians are to be totally separate from lost people.
- 2. I should do anything to keep people from being upset with me.
- 3. The best way to fight opposition is with an aggressive approach.

From the Bible principles taught in this lesson, you should understand that these attitudes are wrong and why?

Write any questions you may have concerning the subjects in this lesson

D. They should see you as being open and honest in all matters.

2 Corinthians 8:21; Romans 12:17

E. They should see a living testimony of the grace of God. Philippians 2:14-15

F. Generally, you should be a good report. 1 Timothy 3:7; Colossians 4:5-6

5. As you look at the lost world, what is your position?

A. You are pilgrim in a strange land. Hebrews 11:13; 1 Peter 2:11

B. Your home is in heaven. Ephesians 2:6; Philippians 3:20

C. This world is a mission field to reach the lost for Jesus Christ Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18-20

6. God has ordained three institutions for man. List them.

A. Government

B. Family

C. Church

7. As Christians we have responsibilities concerning our government. List four primary responsibilities.

A. If you do what is right, you have no reason to fear. God will honor you for doing right.

Romans 13:3-5

B. Render to the government what is due by law.

Romans 13:6-7; Matthew 17:24-27; 22:15-22

C. Your third ministry is to reach the lost. 2 Corinthians 5:20

D. As we saw in a previous lesson, your resources should be yielded to God's service. Those resources are to be used to glorify God through the above three areas.

III – What should be my attitude toward my job?

You should view your job as a ministry opportunity, not just as a job.

A. For most Christians, your fellow workers are the greatest exposure you have to lost people.

B. Your life may be the only true witness of the Lord Jesus Christ they ever see.

1. You are a light representing Jesus Christ. Matthew 5:14-16

2. Your life should reflect the Bible. 2 Corinthians 3:2

C. You will have a much greater influence on those you spend the most time with. Although total strangers are surely an opportunity for a witness, those who can see a consistent testimony of a Christian's life are much easier to win.

IV – What attitudes should I have toward my supervisors and the company I work for?

A. Serve as if the Lord Jesus Christ is your employer.
Ephesians 6:5-8; Colossians 3:22-24

B. Respect the authority of their position. Obviously, no employer will be correct in every point, and you certainly can disagree with them; however, you are to submit to their leadership, using it as an opportunity to show them a testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ.
Titus 2:9-10

C. Respect your company's property, it does not belong to you.

Leviticus 19:11

- D. Respect your company's time, do eight hours of work for eight hours of pay. 2 Corinthians 8:21; Colossians 3:22
- E. You are to do the very best you can to help the company succeed and make your employer look good. Romans 12:11; 1 Corinthians 10:24; Proverbs 10:4; 18:9; 21:25; 22:29
Joseph is the greatest example of this in the Bible in Genesis 39-50
- F. Mind your own business and don't let someone else's laziness affect you. 1 Thessalonians 4:11; 2 Thessalonians 3:10-13

V. The Bible also shows the employer or supervisor how to relate to those under his leadership.

- A. Do I treat my people justly and equally? Do I set standards for them which I refuse to keep myself? Colossians 4:1; Ephesians 6:9
- B. Am I consumed by my own self-interests without considering the needs of those around me? Philippians 2:2-3
- C. Am I trying to be a leader over too many things? Remember to consider the following points whenever a promotion or transfer opportunity presents itself.
 - 1. A great Bible principle is, "He that is faithful in that which is least faithful also in much...." (Luke 16:10). Be sure you can handle what you have now.
 - 2. Realize the more responsibilities you have, the more potential there is for problems to arise. James 3:1; Ecclesiastes 8:9
 - 3. Realize the more responsibilities you have, the more time and energy is demanded. Be sure your new responsibilities will not hinder your service for God.

2. List the sources of opposition you will face.

- A. It will come from these closest to you who know you best: friends, family, fellow workers, acquaintances.
- B. From lost people in general. The two spiritual families have never gotten along and never will.
- C. From society in general. The nature and course of this present world system is against God.
- D. The master mind of this opposition is Satan.

3. There are ways that the Christian can deal with opposition from the world. Briefly explain how the following verses can help you.

- A. Proverbs 15:1 – Give a soft answer. Avoid fights whenever possible.
- B. Proverbs 16:7 – please God with your life.
- C. 1 John 5:4-5 – Have faith in God
- D. Romans 12:20-21 – love your enemies and help them.
- E. Matthew 5:44 – pray for your enemies and pray with pure motives.
- F. Proverbs 13:20 – keep good company. Associate with people who love God and want to serve Him.
- G. Romans 12:2 – immerse yourself in the word of God.

4. When lost people observe your life, what should they see?

- A. They should know I love God, not by my mouth, as much as by my life – 1 Corinthians 8:3
- B. My lifestyle should separate me from the world and my behavior should be peculiar, scripturally to them – 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 1 Peter 2:9
- C. I should not be peculiar physically that I lose influence. Philippians 4:5; 1 Corinthians 9:22

are controlled by Satan (Luke 4:5-6) and therefore, are essentially against God. However, you are still to submit to the ordinance of God.

Romans 13:1-2

2. If you do what is right, you have no reason to fear. God will honor you for doing right. Romans 13:3-5

3. Render to the government what is due by law.

Romans 13:6-7; Matthew 17:24-27; 22:15-22

4. Submit to their ordinances. 1 Peter 2:13-15

5. Honor those in authority, even the wicked, without partaking of their wickedness. Commit any adverse situations to God and let him handle them.

1 Peter 2:17,23 – when Peter wrote these words. Nero was king, perhaps the most wicked king Rome ever had.

6. Realize that you cannot legislate morals or change mankind through political action. Man is by nature fallen and sinful, and must be changed individually, from the inside out, through a personal saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. Titus 2:14

THE LOST WORLD: LESSON 15

1. As a Christian you will encounter some opposition from the world. Why is this?
 - A. Because you are a follower of Christ. Our Lord Jesus Christ was persecuted as well (John 15:18-21)
 - B. Because you are living for him

2 Timothy 2:4

D. Even in a position of leadership, you should always maintain the attitude of a servant. Mark 10:42-45; 1 Corinthians 9:19; 10:33

VI – Basic questions.

A. What if my job conflicts with spiritual matters?

1. There will always be some conflict of priorities between church activities and your work schedule. You cannot quit your job or take off of work because of a few minor conflicts. Remember, your job is a ministry opportunity. However, you must not use your job as an excuse to neglect your responsibilities to your church. You MUST maintain a balance in this area.
2. When your job responsibilities are contrary to Bible principles, then you must draw a line.
 - a. Refuse to lie or steal for your employer or violate other clear commandments of God.
 - b. Guard against temptations on your job.
 - c. Don't be influenced by sinful activities around you.

B. How do I handle persecution on the job?

1. Most persecution in our culture is a result of the Christians own ignorance or lack of personal commitment to the Lord. If you are being persecuted, it is for one or two reasons: your behavior is improper, or your proper testimony is an offense to someone. 1 Peter 3:16-17
2. Expect a certain amount of adversity from the world if you are truly serving Jesus Christ. 2 Timothy 3:12
3. Learn how to commit that adversity to the Lord. 1 Peter 2:18-23

C. What should I consider when looking for employment?

1. Have you taken the matter to God in prayer? James 1:5; Philippians 4:6-7
2. Will the new responsibility destroy what God is trying to build in your life? This is a complex question. Don't be afraid to seek wise counsel in this area from another brother in Christ you respect
3. If you are being asked to move to another city, is there a church there which can continue to provide your spiritual needs? This is an extremely critical point. If this applies, review the principles in Lesson 8 on how to find a good local church in another city.
4. In looking for a change of jobs, are you running away from something you should be facing and trying to correct?

MY JOB AND EMPLOYER: LESSON 14

1. Why are all Christians called into full time Christian service? Give a scripture reference for each reason.
 - A. Our vocation is to serve Jesus Christ. Ephesians 4:1
 - B. The Bible is very clear that EVERY saved person is an integral part of the body of Christ and that each member's contribution is important. God expects every Christian to be involved in the Lord's work. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Ephesians 4:11-16
 - C. Our service for God is to be at all times, not just when you go to church. 1 Peter 3:15; 2 Timothy 4:2
2. The primary purpose of your job is to support your ministry. List the three ministries you need to support.
 - A. Our first ministry is to your family. 1 Timothy 5:8; 3:5
 - B. Our second ministry is to your church family. Galatians 6:10
 - C. Our third ministry is to reach the lost. 2 Corinthians 5:20
3. Why should you view your job as a ministry opportunity?
 - A. Our fellow workers are the greatest exposure you have to lost people.
 - B. Our life may be the only true witness of the Lord Jesus Christ they ever see. You are light...(Matthew 5:14-16)
 - C. You will have a much greater influence on those you spend the most time with.

IV. How should the lost world view me as a Christian?

- A. They should know I love God, not by my mouth, as much as by my life – 1 Corinthians 8:3
- B. My lifestyle should separate me from the world and my behavior should be peculiar, scripturally to them – 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 1 Peter 2:9
- C. I should not be peculiar physically that I lose influence. Philippians 4:5; 1 Corinthians 9:22
- D. They should see you as being open and honest in all matters. 2 Corinthians 8:21; Romans 12:17
- E. They should see a living testimony of the grace of God. Philippians 2:14-15

F. Generally, you should be a good report. 1 Timothy 3:7; Colossians 4:5-6

V. How should I view the world?

- A. You are pilgrim in a strange land. Hebrews 11:13; 1 Peter 2:11
- B. Your home is in heaven. Ephesians 2:6; Philippians 3:20
- C. This world is a mission field to reach the lost for Jesus Christ Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18-20

VI. Basic questions.

- A. What are my responsibilities to my government?
 1. Government is one of three institutions ordained by God; the other two being the family and the church. All governments

1 John 2:15-17; James 4:4

D. Of course, the master mind behind this opposition is Satan.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

1. He is your adversary. 1 Peter 5:8

2. He is currently at work in lost people. Ephesians 2:2

III – How can I overcome this opposition?

A. Give a soft answer. Avoid fights whenever possible.

Proverbs 15:1; Romans 12:18

B. Please God with your life. Proverbs 16:7

C. Have faith in God. 1 John 5:4-5

D. Love your enemies and help them. Jesus Christ loved His enemies enough to die for them when He didn't have to do it. The world cannot understand this type of love, and those who are seeking the truth will be drawn to it. Romans 12:14, 20-21

E. Pray for your enemies, and pray with pure motives. Matthew 5:44

F. Keep good company. Associate with people who love God and want to serve Him. Proverbs 13:20; 1 Corinthians 15:33

G. Immerse yourself in the word of God. Romans 12:1-2

4. What are the attitudes you should have toward your company and supervisor?

A. Serve as if the Lord Jesus Christ is your employer. Ephesians 6:5-8

B. Respect the authority of their position/leadership, using it as an opportunity to show them a testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ. Titus 2:9-10

C. Respect your company's property, it does not belong to you. Leviticus 19:11

D. Respect your company's time, do eight hours of work for eight hours of pay. 2 Corinthians 8:21; Colossians 3:22

E. You are to do the very best you can to help the company succeed and make your employer look good. Romans 12:11. Joseph is the greatest example of this in the Bible in Genesis 39-50

F. Mind your own business and don't let someone else's laziness affect you. 1 Thessalonians 4:11; 2 Thessalonians 3:10-13

5. List some principles that you observe in the life of Joseph which had an impact on his master from Genesis 39:1-6

A. The Lord was with Joseph.

B. The Lord made all he did to prosper in his hand.

C. The Lord blessed the Egyptian's household for Joseph's sake.

6. As an employer, what are some questions you should ask yourself concerning your attitude toward the people who work for you?

A. Do I treat my people justly and equally? Do I set standards for them which I refuse to keep myself? Colossians 4:1; Ephesians 6:9

B. Am I consumed by my own self-interests without considering the needs of those around me? Philippians 2:2-3

C. Am I trying to be a leader over too many things? 2 Timothy 2:4

D. Even in a position of leadership, you should always maintain the attitude of a servant. Mark 10:42-45

7. List for points to consider when deciding whether or not to take a promotion?

A. Be sure you can handle what you have now.

B. Realize the more responsibilities you have, the more potential there is for problems to arise.

C. Realize the more responsibilities you have, the more time and energy is demanded.

D. Be sure your new responsibilities will not hinder your service for God.

8. What should you do when your job schedule does not allow you to be involved in church activities? You must maintain a balance in this area.

9. Jobs at all times may contain responsibilities that violate biblical principles. List three areas to be aware.

A. Refuse to lie or steal for your employer or violate other clear commandments of God.

B. Guard against temptations on your job.

C. Don't be influenced by sinful activities around you.

10. What should you consider if someone at work gives you a hard time concerning your Christian faith?

A. Continue to do good or be a good testimony (1 Peter 3:16-17)

B. Expect a certain amount of adversity from the world if you are truly serving Christ.

C. Learn how to commit that adversity to the Lord.

11. When you are looking for a new job, what should you consider?

A. Have you taken the matter to God in prayer? James 1:5; Philippians 4:6-7

B. Will the new responsibility destroy what God is trying to build in your life?

C. If you are being asked to move to another city, is there a church there which can continue to provide your spiritual needs?

D. In looking for a change of jobs, are you running away from something you should be facing and trying to correct?

Key memory verses: 2 Timothy 2:4; Mark 10:44-45; Colossians 3:23

NOTE: In our society today, some common beliefs are:

1. Your job is just a paycheck
2. Your job status is the most important measure of your success.
3. Your employer must always take a back seat to church activities.

From the bible principles taught in this lesson, you should understand that these teachings are false, and why.

Write any questions you may have concerning the subject in this lesson.

LESSON 15: THE LOST WORLD

As a Christian How Do I Relate to the lost World?

The Bible is very clear that the present world system is contrary to God's eternal purpose. The word of God commands His children to be separate from this world system, yet at the same time to reach lost men and women who live in it for Jesus Christ.

This lesson is designed to show Christians how to live a balanced and consistent life in order to influence people for the Lord Jesus Christ, without the world influencing them for evil.

I. You must realize that if you live for Jesus Christ, you will encounter opposition from the world.

A. You will be opposed because Jesus Christ was opposed.
John 15:18-21

B. You will be opposed only if you live for Him. If you go along with the world they will not oppose you. 2 Timothy 3:12

II. What areas will this opposition come from?

A. Your primary opposition will come from those closest to you who know you best- friends, family, fellow workers, and acquaintances.
Matthew 10:35-36; John 1:11; Mark 6:4

B. From lost people in general. The two spiritual families have NEVER gotten along and never will. Galatians 4:29

C. From society in general. The nature and course of this present world system is against God. This opposition is communicated subtly through the media (literature, television, radio, etc.). You must judge those things by the world of God.