

Living For Christ-Chapter 2

Obeying & Trusting Christ, Part 1

Being A Genuine Christian

FOCUS

Everything the world offers is "nothing." The most important thing is having Christ in our lives.

TODAY'S TIP

This age group is very impressionable. Pray for them weekly by name, asking God to fill them with the knowledge of His will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding in order that they may live a life worthy of the Lord. Colossians 1:9&10

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- White paper
 - Pencils/Markers
 - Black marker
- Optional: Heavy white paper*

1 OPENING WELCOME

- Welcome guests & take attendance.
- Ask questions about their week.
- Lead group in a chorus or two.
- Take prayer requests-Pray for your class time together.
- Announce subject of today's lesson and pass out worksheets.

2 DEVOTIONAL

Read I Samuel 15:22 Let's think a moment about Noah building the ark. For over one hundred years Noah worked on it, even though he was ridiculed and laughed at. What would have happened if Noah had decided that he was tired of taking all this emotional and spiritual suffering and quit? He could have found plenty of reasons to do so. He could have reasoned that he had only imagined that God had told him to build a boat on dry land—especially because it had never, ever rained! He could have decided that it was, just not worth it! He could have said, "I'm tired of people laughing at me every single day, why should I work so hard?"

Be Noah **never quit until He was done!** He was faithful because *he knew that God had spoken to him.* Although he didn't enjoy being the object of scorn and ridicule, he knew he didn't have to answer to those who were persecuting him. God was who he needed to answer to.

Today, each of us has a Bible and know what God expects of us. We can make excuses, or we can obey God. God wants our **obedience** and one day we will **each** have to answer to Him.

PRAYER: Father, help each of us make Jesus Lord in our lives and obey Him. †

3 MEMORY VERSE

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;
the old has gone, the new has come.*

*God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in
him we might become the righteousness of God.*

II Corinthians 5:17 & 21

4 BEING A GENUINE CHRISTIAN

It is much easier to say, "I am a Christian", than to be a genuine Christian. True Christianity must be **genuine**. It is not enough to **call** Christ "Lord," because not everyone who does will be saved on the judgment day. (Matthew 7:21) Some people who **call** Him "Lord," have not **made** Him Lord of their lives.

The Bible teaches that salvation is a **gift** and cannot be earned. A Christian receives salvation by faith. However, a person cannot be a true disciple of Jesus and reject what Jesus asks of His followers. True faith includes obedience. Believers must discover the new quality of life Christ wants us to live—then live it!

An important truth for Christians to remember is found in II Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

In Philippians 3:7-8, the Apostle Paul says that **everything** the world has to offer is **nothing** compared with having Christ. The greatest joy in the whole world is to **know** Christ (have Him as your own Savior). In verse 9, Paul says that he wants to be joined to Christ by a living, life-changing faith. He didn't rely on his own righteousness or goodness, but wanted a **godly** righteousness that comes through having faith in Christ. †

5 QUESTIONS

1. The Bible teaches that salvation is a **gift**, and cannot be **earned**.
2. According to Philippians 3:9, how do we get the righteousness which God has for us? **Through faith in Christ**
3. Paul said that everything the world has is **nothing** compared with **having Christ**.
4. Have **you** made Jesus Lord of **your** life? If so, what has changed in your life?

6 ACTIVITY

Make a column of simple drawing, on the left side of the paper, of things the world considers important. *Ideas could be money, various sports, nice clothes, fancy homes, cars, TV, movies, lots of education, high paying job, etc.* Each student should include things that are especially important to him/her. On the right side in large letters write: **NOTHING, COMPARES TO CHRIST**. Draw arrows from the drawings to these words. The drawings could be done in pencil and the words in black marker if time is a problem.

NOTE: If time is not a problem, you could have students do their drawings on heavy white paper with illustrations outlined and colored in. †