

Living a Life Pleasing to God
Matthew 10:34-39
July 18, 2021

How do we live a life that is pleasing to God?

1. The first step to living a life pleasing to God is to deny ourselves.

- The problem is we like ourselves more than we like anyone else.
- One way to combat selfishness is to avoid anything that might make you selfish.

2. The second step to living a life pleasing to God is to take up our cross.

- The cross was not a religious symbol or jewelry.
- Taking up our cross means to obey God no matter what He says.

“Father, if you are willing, please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.” **Luke 22:42**

Ask these two questions:

1. Are there any areas where I have chosen to not listen to God through Scripture?

2. Has God told me to do something, and I’ve been unwilling to do it?

- Taking up our cross means to we fully embrace Jesus’ mission.

“And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:18-20

“The Lord isn’t really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.”

2 Peter 3:9

Ask these two questions:

1. Why did God give me the talents and resources that I have?

2. Am I using those talents and resources for God’s glory and the good of others?

3. The third step to living a life pleasing to God is to follow Jesus.

Ask this question:

1. Who do you say Jesus is?

Prayer Focus:

- **Ask God to specifically show me where I have been disobedient. When God reveals an area to you simply confess and repent. Then rest in God's grace and forgiveness.**
- **Ask God do I have a heart for people who are far from you? Help me to see people the way you do Lord!**
- **Who do I need to share the good news of the Gospel with?**
- **Thank God that we don't live the Christian life in our own power, but by following Him and through His power.**