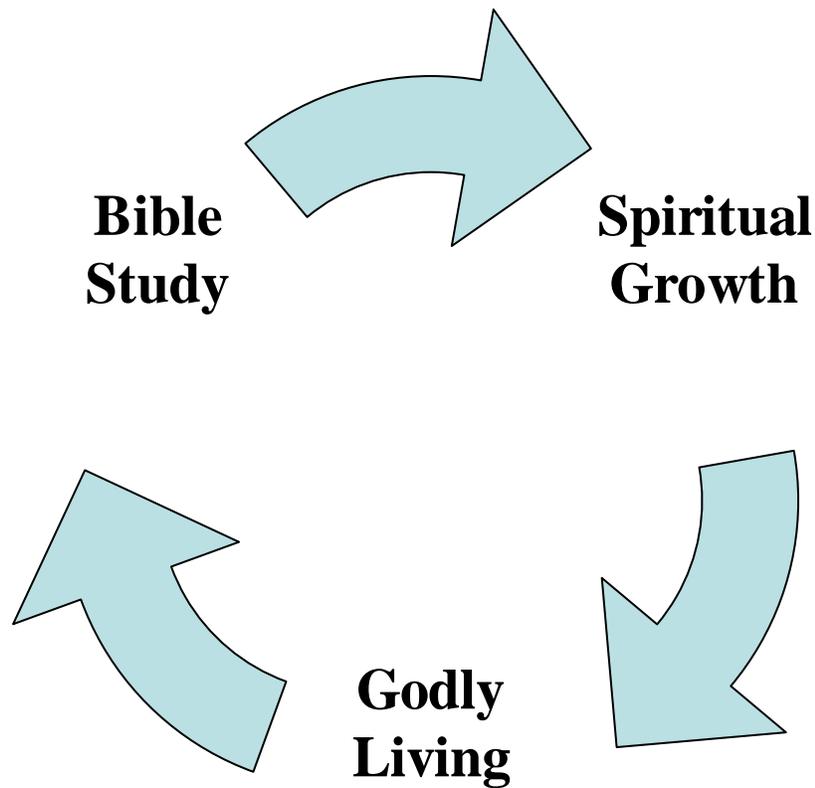


# Godly Living Manual



**An easy step by step  
guide to Godly living**

# **Introduction**

**What's missing?**

**Are you saved?**

**The core of Christian living**

## **Motives-chapter one**

**What are pure motives?**

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# Introduction

## What's missing here?

Many people today are just living from day to day with out much direction. **Have you ever felt like this car does, that you were missing something in your life?** You can have a great job, be rich, and have healthy kids but still be missing something. No amount of material possessions or relationships can fill the void that you feel. Only a relationship with God can truly fill the emptiness a person feels with out him. Before you can be fulfilled by living in Christ, you have to be in Christ. You need to be saved.



### Are you going to heaven when you die?

If asked, most people in the United States would say they believe they are going to heaven also.

**Mat 7:13** Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

**Mat 7:14** Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.



### If you're not sure you're saved, here's how to be saved.

**You need to realize Jesus died on the cross for your sins. Repent of those sins, and ask him to save you. It's that simple to be saved**

**Ephesians 2:8** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

**Eph 2:9** Not of works, lest any man should boast.

**Romans 10:13** For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.



This paper is the third in a set of manuals on how to live the Christian life. The first is a manual on how to study the bible. The second manual is on how to have a relationship with God. This manual deals with how to live in a Godly way. If you would like a copy of any of the papers please contact me. My information is at the end of this paper.

## Are you Godly?

**Titus 2:12** Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, **we should live soberly, righteously, and Godly, in this present world;**

**Titus 2:14** Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, **and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good**



### **There is an order to all things in life.**

We must get our spiritual life in correct order. You must first be saved or you cannot hope to understand much spiritually. You also cannot grow spiritually unless you're saved. If you have any doubts about that, get saved right now before you do anything else.

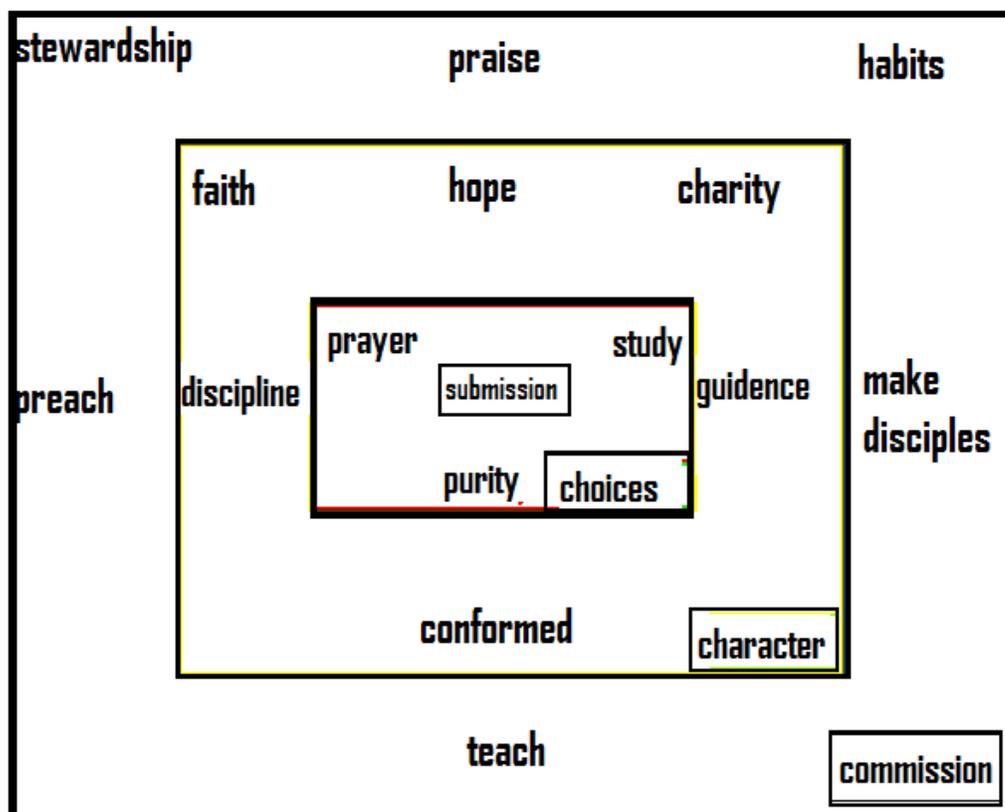
Before you can live Godly you need to begin to grow spiritually. **You do this by submitting to praying daily, reading the bible daily and keeping a pure life daily.** God will use these three things to grow you in character to be like him. He will lead you by his spirit to be conformed to his attitudes and mannerisms. As these characteristics of God begin to show themselves in your heart, then your outward life will become an extension of those characteristics.

The core of all things Christian is submitting to God. **You must chose** to pray study and live a pure life daily to begin having a relationship with him.

These three areas grow the basics of **Christian character**. Faith, hope and charity are the three remaining spiritual gifts. These produce all the fruit of the spirit. As you are conformed to be more like Jesus he guides you and teaches you self discipline.

As you grow in character God begins to reshape your life, and lead you in his **commission**. As you live for him he cleans out addictions and habits from you over time. The closer you get to God the better steward you become of what he has given you. Your life begins to reflect God when you preach teach and make disciples for him. As you are fulfilled in his work your heart will truly praise all his blessings he has given.

## The core of being a Christian



**Here is a verse that tells you of all three areas, of the Christian core.**

**John 2:5** But whoso **keepeth his word**, in him verily is the **love of God perfected**: hereby know we **that we are in him**.

1. Keeping his word is Bible study.
2. The love of God perfected means growing in spiritual character
3. Being in him means living in a Godly way.

### **Pop quiz**

**DO you consider yourself a Christian? Yes---- no-----**

**Other than just going to church, name three things you did for the lord last week**

---

---

**Did you pray everyday? YES--- no -----**

**Did you read the Bible any last week? yes---- no-----**

The average person thinks their pretty good compared to others. Even most convicts think their not to bad, they just got into a little trouble. The fact is the term Christian has been used to loosely to refer to many actions from going to church to giving to the poor. For the purpose of this Manual the term Godly living is used, to show the application of Christian life.

A person could live in a way others see as Christian but is not truly Godly in spirit.

## What comes natural?

We often say that if a person is good at something that they are a natural. But what does it mean to be a natural. Having an inborn talent and using that talent are two different things. No one is born a natural piano player. They may be born with



natural musical gifts but they still have to be taught, and that skill practiced at.

**1Corinthians 12:4** Now there are diversities of gifts,  
but the same Spirit.

In the same way we are born into the family of God with spiritual gifts and abilities, but those gifts and abilities must be worked on. The spiritual walk is not for the lazy, unconcerned or timid person. It takes practice, dedication, and a pure heart. A person might also do the right things but for the wrong reasons. In order to mature those skills and have pure motives you must have a relationship with God on a daily basis.

**Just because a person goes to church, does not mean they are really a Christian, or that they serve God with a pure heart.** Our motives are very important to God. How many good works we do means nothing if our motives are not pure. On the outside others can see what a person does, but God knows the heart of a man. He knows if he is serving him in actions only but not of the heart.



## Pop quiz

**Do you always enjoy going to church or have you ever gone because you felt it was your duty? -----**

**Do you always give tithe back to God? -----**

**Do you give it cheerfully or have you ever felt regretful? -----**

**When you hear preaching do you sometimes day dream instead of listen?  
-----**

So you see even when a person is doing the right things they don't always do them for the right reasons. Why we serve God is as important as what we do. Let's look now at motives.

## Dealing with failure

In your Christian walk you will fail sometimes. No matter how well you prepare or plan, sometimes you will fail. Do not be discouraged, everyone has faced defeat. Even famous people in history who did great things did not win at every single thing they tried.

Here are some tips to help decrease failure.

**A Sound strategy.** Consider there might be more than one way to accomplish your goal. Look up others who had a similar goal and situation and see what they did. Even if you cant use all of what you have learned for your situation you may can take useful pieces to accomplish your goal.

**B Supplies.** You are more likely to succeed at goal if you have all the materials needed for the task first.

**C Protection.** Some goals require you to take precautionary measures to prevent negative consequences. Before starting a task consider the most likely consequences of it.

**D knowledge of subject.** The more you know on a subject the more likely you will be able to deal with surprises that happen with it.

**E People to help.** No man is an island. No matter how talented you are or how well you can do a task, it never hurts to have a little help when necessary.

**F Back up plan.** Regardless of how well you have planned things don't always go as planned.

# Motives - Chapter One

## *The meaning of our motives*

**The word (pure) here is kathros and it is where we get the term catharsis, which means to make pure. This process of purifying is what happens to water that has been filtered. Like this mountain stream.**



**Mat 5:8** Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Physically it is used to refer to the process of cleaning out the bowls of excrement.

Emotionally it refers to ridding yourself of hurtful emotional baggage. Jesus said if we have a pure heart we shall see God. Only those who have been cleansed of sinful motivations can have a true relationship with God. It is further explained when he says in

**Matthew 6; 24 ...you cannot serve two masters.**

## **Why does a pure heart matter?**

Pure motives matter because naturally we have an impure hearts. Jesus purified our spirit at salvation but our mind can still choose to sin. We must learn to submit our mind to follow after the ways of the spirit instead of the flesh.

- **Story of dirty fridge.** I do not know where this story came from, but I heard this story sometime ago.

I once had a fridge that lost power, I came home and all my food was spoiled. I tried all kinds of solutions to fix its problem. I got a rag and bleach and thoroughly cleaned the outside, but it still had rotten food inside. Next I tried getting the fridge many friends to keep it company, but that did not solve anything either.



Then I gave the fridge entertainment, so now it was amused but still unclean on the inside. Lastly I put a Mercedes sticker on it to give it more self esteem, but that didn't help either. In the same way until you have been cleaned on the inside you can't live for God on the outside. No amount of outward cleaning, friends, entertainment or self esteem will make you clean inside.

Is there a void in your life, you can't seem to fill?

**Matthew 5:8 Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.**

## The danger of impure motives



**Do motives matter?** Yes they do. Impure motives can cause many problems. Motives alone are not the end all of being Godly but it is the starting place.

### **Dangers of impure motives**

- **Danger one -Bad motivations often lead to bad results.**

A Christian man once felt guided to a house. He had been praying to be lead to a house where he could show someone to be saved. He had seen other ministers lead to houses in the same way and had great results. When he got there the house was empty. He wondered why God would lead him to an empty house.

He lost faith and doubted God. He wanted to be the recipient of divine revelation. His desire was based on self glorification and not truly the saving of lost souls. He wanted to do great spiritual things to boost his own ego. Our motive for souls winning is to win the souls not an award for spirituality. **Have you ever started doing something you thought was for God, but God did not bless it?**

**Proverbs 11:30 The fruit of the righteous *is* a tree of life; and he that winneth souls *is* wise.**

So how do you tell if your doing Gods will, and how can you recognize impure motives?

**2 Timothy 2:21** If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, *and* prepared unto every good work.

When you're doing something in the name of God, ask yourself these questions.

a) **Do you have a negative history with someone involved?**

Some seemly well intent teachers and leaders have taken a position or do a job in order to affect someone else. They may do this to make the other person jealous, or mad. They may do it out of spite or to cause harm to another. When you take a position or do a job in the name of God, ask yourself if you might be doing this to have a negative affect on someone you don't like.

**Luke 6:27** But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you,

**Luke 6:28** Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.

b) **Is what your doing causing others harm?** Not all negative affects are intentional. Look at the actions you are doing in the name of God and consider their true affects.

**Romans 14:16** Let not then your good be evil spoken of:

c) **How much time do you spend preparing for the task?**

spiritual report card	
praying	B
studying	F
tithing	C

The more a project or task means to you the more time you will spend preparing for it, regardless of what the task is.

There are students who study much and make good grades and students who study little and make just passing grades. How important is the task to you?

**How would your spiritual report card look?**

**Psa 1:2** But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

**d) When you prepare for the task how distracted are you by other things?**

The more important something is to you, the more willing you will be to put away from yourself anything that could distract you. To the pit team at a car race, they cannot let the noise from the crowd or cars distract them. They know they only have seconds to perform the needed task.

When you are preparing for the task, do you think about all the others things you would like to be doing, or do you focus on the task itself?

**Jeremiah 29:13** And ye shall seek me, and find *me*, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

**Is it important enough to merit your whole heart or a half hearted mentality?**



**e) How much do you care about the end results of the task?**

A person who does his job does so to earn a living. If he is also doing a job that is a needed service then he must care about the end result. A trash collector for instance can get away with half done work with little effect to others but a doctor cannot.

For doctors and many other similar service jobs any one task could cost or save lives.



If the normally expected effect does not happen in a job you are doing would you care? If you are teaching a class and no one is listening to you, do you care if they are learning?

**1John 4:8** He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

**f) When you perform the task does it energize you or drain you?**

If you are doing a task for Godly reasons it will give you spiritual strength but if you are doing it for wrong reasons you will feel drained.



**Luke 24:32** And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

**2Ti 3:2** For men shall be lovers of their own selves,.... Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof

**g) What extra benefit do you fantasize about?**

If there are impure motives in a task they will often times surface in the form of fantasies.

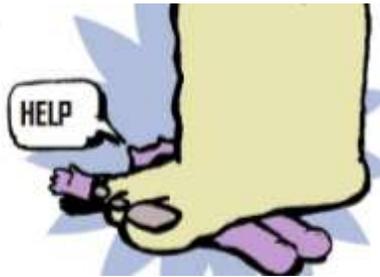


**Fantasies about**

- The money earned by doing the task
- Revenge or spite
- Respect or fame earned
- Or any other benefit

**Proverbs 24:9** The thought of foolishness is sin:.....

**h) What did you have to do to accomplish this task or get this position?**



If you are doing God's work you do not need to cause harm to others to obtain it. If God is leading you to lead others you do not have to do evil to accomplish his good.

**Galiatians 6:7** Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

**i) Do you have emotional baggage?** Finally if you have negative emotions clouding your judgment it will hinder Gods work rather than promote it.



Some negative emotions that are common impure motives

- Jelousy
- Bitterness
- unforgivness

**Mark 11:25** And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.



• **Danger two-**You can do seemingly good things for selfish reasons.

### Some bad reasons we might do good things

1. **To get rewarded-**to get a reward for your good deeds -to try to force God to bless you
2. **self pride-** look how good I am -to show off abilities
3. **bragging rights-** look how good I am---Self-gratification
4. **guilt-** I have done something bad I have to make up for
5. **jealously-** revenge or spite
6. **peer approval-** so others will respect you



**Danger three-**You can have bad motives with seemly good results.

Many people believe the ends justify the means. That is as long as you get good results it doesn't matter what you had to do to get it. The people in Jerusalem thought to do evil to Jesus by putting him to death, though that sacrifice was for our good. The end result of his sacrifice does not take away

their responsibility in his death. Just because you do something in the name of God and some good comes of it, does not automatically mean it was from God. The end result of a thing does not justify any action it took to achieve it.

Good works alone with out pure motives mean nothing to God, because our own goodness does not measure up to God's standards.

**Isaiah 64:6** But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.



**Danger four-You can have good motives with bad results.**

Doctors and barbers used to drain a sick person's blood to try to make them well. That is why the barber's pole is white and red striped. No doubt many doctors had good intentions to try to save their patients. Hitler lived by what he thought was good intentions.



He wanted to evolve the human race by eliminating those he saw as inferior. Both seemly good intentions had terrible results.

**Proverbs 14:12** There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.



**Danger five-Sometimes, you can do the right thing but get ahead of God's timing.**

Often time's people in the Bible got ahead of God's timing. Only the father in heaven knows when he wants all things to happen. Just as with physically you have to wait to certain points in your life to accomplish particular things, the same can be said for spiritual things.

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