

Studies in Christianity Christian Lifestyle #5

S#1.

Dedicated to Glorifying God

S#2.

Text : **I Chronicles 29: 1-13 ; Psalms 34: 1-3**

A. Long delay has disrupted our series.

1. The objective of preaching in series is to provide continuity of thought.
2. A series also enables us to go into greater depth and create a more complete understanding of the topic.
3. This will be the 5th lesson in a series about the Christian lifestyle.

B. The series started with some general guidelines for Christian living.

S#3.

1. Being a Christian is not something that will make one socially popular.
2. Even so, Jesus requires that His followers stand out like a light in the darkness.
3. We stand as we are at the moment and keep developing, not wait until we arrive.

C. The Christian lives in search of ever greater sanctification.

1. Christians evaluate everything by the standard that God established for us.
I Thes. 5: 21 – But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; **22** abstain from every form of evil.
2. It is the will of Jesus that those whom He has purchased be zealous to do good.
Tit. 2: 14 – ... our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, **14** who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.
3. We do this to please God, but also because the world is watching – example.

S#4.

D. The Christian lives with an awareness of the poor and a desire to lift them.

S#5.

1. **Matt. 26: 11 / Deut. 15: 11** ... Jesus quotes the O.T. , there will always be poor
2. Even so, it is the will of God that we care for the poor.
3. We looked at some causes of poverty and some ways we can help.

E. The Christian's lifestyle is directed by a heart of compassion.

1. God describes Himself as a God of compassion.
Exod. 34: 6 – Then the Lord passed by in front of him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth;
2. Compassion is the emotion most often attributed to Jesus.

S#6.

3. Like our Master, we who serve the Lord must be compassionate.
4. We close out our lesson exploring some ways we could learn compassion.

F. With this lesson we want to observe one of the goals of our lifestyle. S#7.

1. What does it mean to glorify God ?
2. The highest duty of man is to glorify his creator.
3. A few practical ways to glorify God.

I. What does it mean to glorify God. S#8.

A. A basic definition has two parts.

1. To recognize that God is greater, more valuable, and more beautiful than everything else combined, **i.e.**, to recognized God's supremacy over all. S#9.
2. To live one's life in light of the fact that God is supreme, so that his life demonstrates that belief. S#10.
3. Imagine a balance scale with God on one side and the world on the other. S#11.

B. This is the way the scriptures describe God.

1. **Isa. 40: 15** – Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are regarded as a speck of dust on the scales; Behold, He lifts up the islands like fine dust. **16** Even Lebanon is not enough to burn, nor its beasts enough for a burnt offering. **17** All the nations are as nothing before Him, they are regarded by Him as less than nothing and meaningless. S#12.
2. **Rom. 11: 33** – Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! ... **36** For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen. S#13.

C. We glorify God when we encourage others to view Him highly. S#14.

Psa. 34: 1 – I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. **2** My soul will make its boast in the Lord; The humble will hear it and rejoice. **3** O magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt His name together.

II. The highest duty of man is to glorify his creator. S#15.

A. God did not create man because He needed man. S#16.

1. God was not lonesome in Heaven.
 - a. Jesus has always been with God in Heaven.

- b. There are legions of angels in Heaven.
 - c. the Seraphim, Cherubim & The Four Living Creatures.
2. God did not create man to serve Him.

Acts 17: 24 – The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; **25** nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things;

B. Christians are created TO glorify God.

S#17.

1. God created Christians to do good things.
Eph. 2: 10 – For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.
2. Jesus said our good works are to be done to God's glory.
Matt. 5: 16 – Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.
3. Therefore, the purpose of our good works is to glorify God.

C. We are directly commanded to live in a way that glorifies God.

S#18.

1. **I Cor. 10: 31** – Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. (**6: 19-20** .. "in your body")
2. God is glorified when we believe the right things, but He requires activities.

III. Notice A few practical ways to glorify God.

S#19.

A. One must believe in God before he can glorify Him.

S#20.

1. **Rom. 4: 20-21** – Yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but **grew** strong in faith, giving glory to God, **21** and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.
2. When one has the faith of Abraham, it will dominate his life as it did Abraham's life.

B. One glorifies God when he credits God for that which God has done / provided.

1. **Dan. 4: 28** – All this happened to Nebuchadnezzar the king. **29** " Twelve months later he was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon. **30** The king reflected and said, 'Is this not Babylon the great, which I myself have built as a royal residence by the might of my power and for the glory of my majesty?' **31** "While the word was in the king's mouth, a voice came from heaven, saying, 'King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is declared: sovereignty has been removed from you, **32** and you will be driven away from mankind, and your dwelling place will be with the beasts of the field.

S#21.

2. We all come into the world naked .. with nothing.

Job 1: 21– He said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall return there. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

S#22.

C. The giving of thanks glorifies God. (*public or private .. restaurant*)

S#23.

1. **II Cor. 4: 15** – For all things are for your sakes, so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God. (*withhold glory in ..*)

2. Jesus correlated the giving of thanks with giving God glory.

Luke 17: 17 – Then Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine — where are they? **18** Was no one found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?" **19** And He said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has made you well."

S#24.

3. Giving thanks is the will of God and acknowledges Him before both realms.

I Thes. 5: 16 – Rejoice always; **17** pray without ceasing; **18** in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

- a. The giving of thanks tends to be limited to things that we consider blessings. Remember **James 1** ... count it all joy ...
- b. "everything" includes negative events (*opportunities to glorify & to grow*)

D. Confession and repentance is an act that glorifies God.

S#25.

1. Joshua linked the confession of Achan's sin with giving glory to God.

Josh 7: 19 – Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, I implore you, give glory to the Lord, the God of Israel, and give praise to Him; and tell me now what you have done. Do not hide it from me." **20** So Achan answered Joshua and said, "Truly, I have sinned against the Lord, the God of Israel, and this is what I did:

2. The prophet Jeremiah linked the repentance of Israel to giving glory to God.

Jer. 13: 15 – Listen and give heed, do not be haughty, for the Lord has spoken. **16** Give glory to the Lord your God, before He brings darkness and before your feet stumble on the dusky mountains, and while you are hoping for light He makes it into deep darkness, and turns it into gloom.

S#26.

3. God is glorified any time one surrenders his will to God's will.

D. One glorifies God by causing others to have an elevated view of Him.

S#27.

1. Christians are God's public relations department.

- a. No one will think more highly of your Father than you think.

- b. We were all taught to be aware of how our actions reflect on the family name.
- c. Our lives affect the way the world views our Heavenly Father.
 * *Christians are held to a different and a higher standard of activity.*
- 2. There is no better way to elevate God in the eyes of another than to persuade him to accept the salvation that the Son of God purchased.
- 3. Evangelism has always been part of being a God follower.
 - a. **Prov. 11: 30** – The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, S#28.
 And he who is wise wins souls.
 - b. **Psa. 126: 5** – Those who sow in tears shall reap with joyful shouting. S#29.
 6 He who goes to and fro weeping, carrying his bag of seed. Shall indeed come again with a shout of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.
 - c. **Dan. 12: 3** – Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness. like the stars forever and ever.
- 4. To be fruitful is to reproduce after one's own kind.
 - a. **II Cor. 5: 10** – For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, S#30.
 so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are made manifest to God; and I hope that we are made manifest also in your consciences.
 - b. **John 15: 8** – My Father is glorified by this, that you **bear** much fruit, and so **prove** to be My disciples.
- 5. Evangelism is directly commanded of all Christians.
 - Matt. 28: 19** – Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing S#31.
 them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; ...

CONCLUSION :

- A. Summarize
- B. Apply

INVITATION :

What is the prime directive of our lives ?

S#32.

What effect does our life have on others ?

S#33. ... Communion slide

Lesson Text :**I Chronicles 29: 1-13**

1. Then King David said to the entire assembly, "My son Solomon, whom alone God has chosen, is still young and inexperienced and the work is great; for the temple is not for man, but for the Lord God. 2 "Now with all my ability I have provided for the house of my God the gold for the things of gold, and the silver for the things of silver, and the bronze for the things of bronze, the iron for the things of iron, and wood for the things of wood, onyx stones and inlaid stones, stones of antimony and stones of various colors, and all kinds of precious stones and alabaster in abundance. 3 "Moreover, in my delight in the house of my God, the treasure I have of gold and silver, I give to the house of my God, over and above all that I have already provided for the holy temple, 4 namely, 3,000 talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and 7,000 talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the buildings; 5 of gold for the things of gold and of silver for the things of silver, that is, for all the work done by the craftsmen. Who then is willing to consecrate himself this day to the Lord?"

6 Then the rulers of the fathers' households, and the princes of the tribes of Israel, and the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, with the overseers over the king's work, offered willingly; 7 and for the service for the house of God they gave 5,000 talents and 10,000 darics of gold, and 10,000 talents of silver, and 18,000 talents of brass, and 100,000 talents of iron. 8 Whoever possessed precious stones gave them to the treasury of the house of the Lord, in care of Jehiel the Gershonite. 9 Then the people rejoiced because they had offered so willingly, for they made their offering to the Lord with a whole heart, and King David also rejoiced greatly.

10 So David blessed the Lord in the sight of all the assembly; and David said, "Blessed are You, O Lord God of Israel our father, forever and ever. 11 " Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; Yours is the dominion, O Lord, and You exalt Yourself as head over all. 12 " Both riches and honor come from You, and You rule over all, and in Your hand is power and might; and it lies in Your hand to make great and to strengthen everyone. 13 "Now therefore, our God, we thank You, and praise Your glorious name.

Psalms 34: 1-3

1 I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. 2 My soul will make its boast in the Lord; The humble will hear it and rejoice. 3 O magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt His name together.