

What we do is a reflection of our Spiritual Walk

Jesus didn't say you might be, or could be; not even you should be he said "you are the light of the world". **Matthew 5:14:** 'You Are the Light of the World.' There are many good people in the world who do good works who have never entered a 'church, temple, synagogue, or mosque. So, how are we different, not better, just different? I have challenged myself on this question many times. Are we different?

As Christians we are on a life long journey, a spiritual walk. We continue to grow as we learn, and we learn by reading, exploring the Bible; and by sharing and learning from like-minded people. I'm not sure that our spiritual walk ever ends. At least it hasn't for me. Sometimes I have such a big a ha! moment I'm quite literally stunned. I can't believe I didn't already know something that should have been obvious to me.

Good Citizenship: Titus 3:1-2; "Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities." To be obedient to be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate and to show true humility toward all men. That doesn't mean if we believe what we are told is wrong that we can't protest, work for change, but we should protest peacefully within the law.

Hear and Act: James: 1:22; "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says". Studying God's Word is important to our growth. The more we read it, the more we understand. I love the poetry of The King James version, to me it just flows. But I have to be honest and tell you I often have to turn to a study Bible to learn more, to figure out what I read. Sometimes to put things in context or to look at the bigger picture or just to figure out what a word meant. First it is reading, then understanding, then you must act, change.

Anonymity: Matthew 6:1; "Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness before men to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven." Once in a while everyone likes a little pat on the back, 'you did a good job, or you are a good person'. A sincere thank you or a note of appreciation can go a long way in making someone feel good. But if the only reason you do good things is to receive recognition or praise, your motivation is wrong.

Thankfulness and Trust, No Matter What: Psalm 136: 1; Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. The entire Psalm is about thankfulness, offering praise to God. That is a lot easier to do when everything is going well, 'when all is right with the world'. When you or a family member are struggling, or in the middle of a pandemic, when things aren't going so well it is a little harder. God did not promise that if we believe our lives would be perfect without hardships or sorrow. He did promise to be with us, always. There are times when we just can't find the words to praise God in the middle of stuff that life throws at us, but to put your trust in God, knowing his presence is constant is also a form of praise.

If what we do is a reflection of our spiritual walk, are we different?

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