

Christ is the Focus of Our Lives

Introduction: Read John 6:59-69. There are two big realities that concern our human existence: 1) the reality of right now; 2) the reality of eternity. Notice the catastrophe of following Jesus only as long as we consider what Jesus says as reasonable and understandable. Christ shows us, who will focus on him without restriction, the reality of eternity.

- I. "Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord, Jesus" (Col. 3:15 - 4:1)
 - A. Three results for giving yourself to Christ.
 1. Peace of Christ ruling your heart.
 2. The word of Christ living in you.
 3. Everything you do is influenced by Jesus Christ.
 - B. Paul's specific examples and practical applications for how the above principles direct your life.
 - C. Notice Paul's emphasis of the "why" of our behavior.

- II. Dealing With This Eternal Reality
 - A. 1 Corinthians 10:31-33
 - B. Notice the context: circumstances that demand spiritual choices in seemingly small, spiritually insignificant matters.
 - C. Paul's instructions for making important spiritual choices:
 1. Be certain that God is glorified in everything you do.
 2. Show genuine consideration for people you're with.
 - D. 1 Corinthians 7:21-24. Though "freed" as Christians we need to learn how to exist as Christians in various circumstances rather than trying to run away from responsibility and difficult situations.

Conclusion: What is the spiritual reality for every man or woman who is a Christian any place on earth? No matter what situation a person is in, he or she can be a Christian in that situation. The Christian objective is not to find the "ideal situation"; the objective is to represent God well in the way I live where I am, because I understand the eternal reality and devote my life to it in Christ.