

## BEEN PLEASING GOD LATELY?

**John 14:16-26; 15:26; 16:7    Colossians 1:26-27    1 John 3:24    Matthew 28:19-20**

**Introduction:** Been pleasing God lately or is there room for improvement? Anything need changing? Have you been a good example for a new Christian to copy his/her life after?

Do you like change? What about taking orders? Afraid to try something new? Want things to stay the way they are right now?

Would it surprise you to know that Jesus doesn't have a whole lot of authority in most Christian's lives? What about your own life? Take a good look, does He? If He doesn't wouldn't you like to change that?

From the very beginning it has always been God's intent that He and man should be together. In Jesus God became visible so all could see how it should be. The cross made it possible for God to be able to come back into man and God's presence that would be in man is the Holy Spirit, or the invisible Jesus.

### **SCRIPTURES:**

#### **I. JESUS MUST CONTROL ONE'S LIFE IN ORDER TO LIVE AS GOD INTENDS**

- Need some changes in your life? Ready for Jesus to "step in?"

##### **1. For Jesus to "step in" one must want Jesus to control one's life.**

- Are you ready to be controlled by someone else? Even though it is Jesus?
- This is "total" control and He will be the LORD of your life.

##### **2. Do you really want a "Lord" in your life? Even if it is Jesus?**

- He will bring great blessings and benefits, **but.....**
- He will want to be in charge of your soul, your very existence, which means you will give Him your home, job, friends, all that is you, everything.

##### **3. Think about it, are you sure you want Jesus to take over your personality and change it to what He wants you to be like?**

- There will be no tolerance for sin, no self-love, no self-confidence, no self-admiration, no self-confidence, no self-righteousness, no self-pity, no self-anything!
- There will be total obedience to the Bible and what Jesus says.

##### **4. The One who will take over your life (if you are willing) will be in total opposition to how the world lives and how you have been living in general.**

- No tolerance for evil of any sort, no smiling at dirty stories or jokes, no watching or reading questionable material, no acceptance of things that God hates.
- Jesus wasn't accepted by very many and they finally hated Him for His ways.
- Are you willing to allow Him to cause you to stand in opposition to how the world lives and have enemies, even some from you own family?

- 5. Give it some thought. Are you really ready for Jesus to take control of your life?**
- Why not leave things as they are. Pray, read the Bible, attend church services, tithe, do your part in your church, help out when asked.
  - Jesus once asked His disciples about being sure if they really wanted to follow Him.
    - So are you sure you want to change from what you have been doing?
  - **Do you really want to turn everything over to Jesus?**
    - To be what God intends for you, Jesus must be in complete control of your life.

## **II. WHAT ONE CAN DO TO LET JESUS BE IN CONTROL OF HIS/HER LIFE**

- 1. Present your body to Him. (*Romans 12:1-2*) Jesus can't control what He doesn't have.**
  - Are you ready to present to Jesus all that you are and have? Your mind, your personality, your soul, your spirit, your love, your ambitions, your total existence?
- 2. Now ask Jesus to take over your life completely. (*Luke 11:9-11, Revelation 3:20*)** Jesus will never intrude or take anything without your permission.
  - He is waiting for you to ask Him to take control over your life completely.
- 3. If you have asked Jesus to take over your life completely, obedience is the next thing.**
  - What will Jesus want you to do first? Simply take your Bible and live by it day by day as He reveals to you what He wants and talk to Him (Pray).
- 4. Now comes faith. (*Galatians 3:2*)**
  - "By grace through faith (and that not of yourself) you were saved" and Jesus came into your life.
  - By faith, Jesus can now take control of your body, mind, spirit and total life.
  - When by faith you received Jesus as Savior, so now by faith you can give Jesus control of your life and day by day do what Jesus has in mind for you.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- 1. Are you satisfied with your life as it is? Do you think God is satisfied with it?**
- 2. Would you like to live your life as God wants you to?**
- 3. To live your life as God wants, Jesus will have to be in absolute control of your total existence.**
- 4. Most Christians are living their lives without Jesus being in control, saved, yes, indwelt with the Holy Spirit, yes, but they are still in control of their lives and not Jesus, thus not living as God wants.**
- 5. For Jesus to be in control, one must deliberately surrender control, asking Him to take control and obeying whatever Jesus has in mind as one studies God's Word and listens for Jesus to reveal His thoughts as one reads the Word and prays.**
- 6. Is this what you want? If so, do it! Become what God wants you to be.**