

## **CHRISTIANS DON'T ALWAYS ACT LIKE CHRISTIANS**

**1 Corinthians 3:1-3; Hebrews 5:11-14**

**(Not completely original with me)**

**Introduction:** Face it, nobody is perfect except the Lord Jesus, however Christians have Him as their example and they are indwelt with the Holy Spirit who can enable Christians to live like Jesus did. So, why don't Christians always act like Christians then? Think about yourself, Christian. What reasons could you give that caused you to not act as you should have as a Christian? Here are some things that cause us Christians to not always act as we should.

### **1. CHRISTIANS GET UPSET, EVEN AGGRIVATED WITH GOD**

1. People talk a talk but their actions speak louder than their words.
2. Christians get upset with God when they don't get their prayers answered exactly as they expected.
3. Several very faithful people in the Bible got upset with God and even were angry with Him because He allowed His people to get into situations He could have prevented if He wanted to. (Moses and David, just to name a couple).
4. Then there are those who are not authentic, genuine, real Christians, just Christians by name only. They look genuine, and for a while sound genuine, but when it comes down to it, they just don't fit "the mold completely."

### **2. CHRISTIANS BECOME DISTRACTED**

1. Christians lose their focus and become distracted causing them to take their eyes off the Lord.
2. Christians are urged to keep focused on what God has done for them and what God has in the future for them.
3. Christians are encouraged to keep their hope and faith going by staying on the "straight and narrow" path which they are to walk in being like Jesus.
4. The world and friends often draw attention away from the Lord and the Christian becomes distracted.
5. Forgetting what God the Father and Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit have done, are doing and shall do for one in the future causes a Christian to stop acting as he/she should.

### **3. CHRISTIANS SOMETIMES KEEP THE WRONG KIND OF COMPANY**

1. Remember who Jesus "hung" around with? Jesus wasn't into their kind of life, but He was interested in being their friend.
2. Wrong reasons for relationships can be dangerous. Being with the "wrong" kind of people just to be with them and because one likes to be with them is very harmful to the Christian.

3. It's been said, "Bad company corrupts good character.." Even the wisest pay dearly for keeping bad company.
4. Think about those who have suffered because of what somebody else did.

#### **4. CHRISTIANS OFTEN DON'T LET GO OF THEIR SELF-CENTEREDNESS**

1. It is one thing to place one's trust in the Lord Jesus and another to actually turn everything over to the Lord. The old human nature fights and fights to keep control.
2. Whenever a Christian takes his/her eyes off the Lord Jesus, even for a moment, self immediately takes over and one's interest reverts to him/herself.
3. Few Christians have mastered letting Jesus maintain permanent control over their lives.

#### **5. CHRISTIANS SOMETIMES FAIL TO TOTALLY TRUST IN GOD**

1. Christians will quickly admit that God knows more and God knows best, however it is very hard to turn everything totally over to Him.
2. One has only to remember the disciple "Peter" who boldly declared that he would follow the Lord Jesus to his death, but within a few hours found himself hiding and then denying that he even knew Jesus.
3. Most Christians have done about the same thing. Say how much they love the Lord and how much they depend and rely upon Him, but fail to follow through with their statement of their faith and trust.

#### **6. CHRISTIANS SLIP INTO A WEAK PRAYER LIFE**

1. A weak prayer life is not optional for any Christian who wants to walk close to the Lord Jesus.
2. Christians pray, not to impress anybody, but to keep themselves clean of sin, and getting directions in how to live their lives.
3. The more one prays, the closer one becomes to the Lord and more like Him he/she becomes.
4. *"...Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak..." (Matthew 26:41)*

#### **7. CHRISTIANS DROP DOWN THEIR GUARD**

1. It can happen in a split second, at the least thought of moment and "pow" it happens.
2. Remember when King David came home one day and went to his roof top to rest for a while and he looked across the way and there, nearby, was a beautiful woman on her roof top taking a bath.

- In that sudden, unguarded moment, something bad happened. The rest is well known.
- David dropped down his guard and "pow" it happened.

3. It happens every day to some unthinking, unsuspecting Christian - drop one's guard and "pow."

## **8. CHRISTIANS ARE SOMETIMES UNSURE OF THEIR MOTIVES**

1. The Bible reminds us that "*..The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?...*" (*Jeremiah 17:9*)
2. The Christian needs to cry out as did David: "*...Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting...*" (*Psalms 139:23-24*)
3. Everybody does things or avoids doing things they think might bring hurt, harm, or change to them or to somebody they care about. Sometimes the results are not what were expected.
4. Christians want to be as sure as they can about why they do or not do things.

## **9. CHRISTIANS OFTEN FORGET ABOUT THEIR UNSEEN, INVISIBLE ENEMY - SATAN**

1. Everyone gets caught up in everyday living and life sometimes doesn't give much time to think about this or that, so a natural reaction happens.
  - Not having the time or not taking the time to think about things sometimes later it is discovered that Satan was behind the event or what happened.
2. Satan tries to find ways to render every Christian ineffective in living as Jesus and therefore setting a bad example for others to see.
3. Although Satan can't take the Christian away from the Lord, he can certainly cause the Christian to be useless and ineffective as a witness for the Lord Jesus.

## **10. CHRISTIANS HAVE A HABIT OF "DOING WHAT COMES NATURALLY"**

1. Living a spiritual life does not come naturally, but living the old sin nature life does and it is only "natural" to live like everybody else does.
2. Jesus intends for Christians to be together, to study together, to pray together, to worship together and even calls Christians His "body."
3. Jesus made it clear that every Christian belongs to Him, and to one another which makes every Christian accountable to each other as well as to the Lord Jesus.

## **CONCLUSION:**

1. No Christian is perfect, but every Christian is to strive, to work toward being as perfect as he/she can be. See where YOU are lacking and then work toward strengthening that area.