

## HOW TO REALLY CHANGE YOUR LIFE

### Matthew 6:33

**Introduction:** Most Christians seemed to be fairly satisfied with the condition of their lives. Some might admit that there is a change here or there that might need to be made and some minor adjustments in an area or two, but the average church member is content to leave things as they are. However every once in a while someone goes to his/her pastor asking what can he/she do to make a change in his/her life because he/she realizes that there must be more to being a Christian than what is currently happening.

What if every Christian really wanted to "amount to something" for the Lord? What if every Christian wanted a deep, radical change in his/her spiritual life? What would a person have to do to experience a deep spiritual change in his/her life?

#### **1. One must become thoroughly dissatisfied with the way things presently are.**

- Most Christians are complacent and complacency is a deadly enemy of spiritual progress.
- Paul said concerning earthly things that "*...I have learned...to be content...*"
- Paul said concerning spiritual things that "*...I press toward the mark...*"
- One must become aware of his/her present complacent attitude before God's gift within the soul can be stired up.

#### **2. Determination to make a change must become the primary thing in one's life.**

- Hesitation, timidity, shyness, afraid to try anything new will cause failure before the first step is taken.
- There must be a "leap" into the arms of God without any other thought for a change to start to take place.

#### **3. One must put him/herself where God can bless.**

- God's grace doesn't appear like waving a magic wand when one has not met God's conditions or is even aware that there are certain conditions necessary.
- God has clearly revealed the way He wants His Children to walk and to want God's blessings but at the same time neglect prayer, Bible study and obedience is to want one way but to go in the opposite direction.

#### **4. One must clean up his/her life by repenting of every known sin.**

- Write down every known sin, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal those forgotten or even unknown, then confess them one by one, sincerely, with deep regret and sorrow.
- Until one's sins become as horrible to him/her as they are to God there will never be a sincere fear and disgust of sin.

#### **5. Sometimes restitution must be made.**

- Unsettled quarrels, disagreements, hurt feelings, harsh words go unsettled, unresolved. Those must be taken care of, reconciled, corrected, the crooked made straight, as completely as possible.
- All things must be as well between him/herself and others as possible.

**6. One must bring his/her life into line with the teachings of Jesus.**

- The teachings of Jesus (Sermon on the Mount) and of His Apostles must be studied.
- Time on one's knees, talking with God about His Word and one's life must take place.
- Adjustments must be made bringing one' life into line with how God says one is to live.

**7. This must be done seriously.**

- The life of a Christian is not like anybody else's who is not a Christian. It's not like lives you see on television or in the newspapers.
- What God shows the serious Christian is very different from the standards and attitudes of the world and which one has had up to the moment of wanting to make a change.
- Here is where most Christians stop. They don't want to give up their usual, normal, way of living. They don't want to be different from everybody else.
- There has to be a serious, "radical" change in one's life or there will be little if any permanent spiritual improvement.

**8. Interests must be carefully and seriously narrowed.**

- Every Christian has been given a special spiritual gift to start with and nobody has every gift God has for His children.
- One must concentrate his/her interests upon the gift that God has given to him/her exclusively and in doing so God will enlarge that gift and heart.
- One must apply what is learned in the study of God's Word and Jesus' life style and when applied, one's heart and life will be enlarged and the things of God become more clear.

**9. Once one has begun to live as Jesus lived, he/she will begin to witness as never before.**

- One must make him/herself available to God to use for anything He asks.
- Do not tell God what you want to do or do not want to do.
- Learn to do exactly what God wants, exactly how God wants you to do it.
- Give God everything, all belongs to Him, anyhow.

**10. Put one's faith completely in God.**

- Now one can begin to expect things to happen.
- When following God's instructions and doing things the way God wants, **THINGS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN!**

**CONCLUSION:**

1. This is not for everyone! Most christians are satisfied with status quo...things just like they are.
  - However, for those who really want to be who and what God wants, these ten steps will help change their lives and bring them to where spiritual change begins to happen.
2. Christian! If you want to be what/who God wants you to be, changes have to take place. Do you want to make those changes? Regardless of what it might cost you?
3. God has something special He wants each of His Children to do. Are you doing what God wants you to be doing? Are you satisfied with your spiritual life and relationship with God?