



Basic Principles for Christian Living

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

The Christian life is not self-centered but Christ-centered. “For to me to live is Christ” (*Phil. 1:21*). It’s all about Him. God’s glory is all that counts (*1 Cor. 10:31*). God’s will must be done and sin must be avoided at any cost (*Matt. 26:39; Rom. 12:9*). I do not tell God how things should be, but I submit to His terms as set forth in His Word (*Rom. 6:11-13*).

My aim is to please God always, please and serve others and not to please myself (*Rom. 15:1-3*). I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD (*Psalms 71:16*) and in the power of the Spirit (*Zech. 4:6*). I have no might and no wisdom to live the Christian life, but my eyes are upon the LORD (*2 Chron. 20:12*).

When I fail, then I am the one to blame. I must never blame others, or circumstances or the devil. My sufficiency is not of myself, but of God (*2 Cor. 3:5*), and His grace is sufficient for every situation (*2 Cor. 12:9; 9:8*). I must not leave God out of anything because Ecclesiastes teaches me that apart from a right relationship with God, I will be miserable, and life will be meaningless.

I must not focus on people because they will often disappoint and let me down (*Jer. 17:5*), but my faithful God will never disappoint nor fail me (*Deut. 31:6,8*). I want to put the beauty of the LORD on display (*Psalms 90:17*), not the ugliness of self (*Gal. 5:19-21*). **I walk by faith**, not by sight, taking God at His Word and counting on Him to do what He promised (*2 Cor. 5:17*).

I want to avoid the barrenness of a busy life lived in the energy of the flesh (*Gal. 5:16*).

May my service flow out of a right and wonderful relationship with the Lord!

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org



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