

3 Requirements for a God-Pleasing Life



Ephesians
5:1-10

1. The believer must have ONE AMBITION. “Therefore, we labour that whether present or absent, we may be accepted of Him” (2 Cor. 5:9). The phrase “we labour” means “we are ambitious, we strive for, we devote ourselves with earnest and serious effort.” To be “accepted of Him” means “to be well-pleasing to Him.” The very next verse teaches that we will all appear before Christ’s Judgment Seat (2 Cor. 5:10). With an eye toward His Judgment Seat and with a desire to hear His well done, our one ambition must be to please Him well in all things.

2. The believer must have ONE QUESTION. “Proving (testing) what is acceptable (well-pleasing) unto the Lord” (Eph. 5:10). This verse implies that as we walk through this life there is to be one question that we are to be constantly asking ourselves: “Lord, is this pleasing to You?” We are to bring our lives under continual examination—rejecting all that would not delight our Saviour and cleaving to those things that are well-pleasing in His sight. In every decision and in every action, may we fear to do anything that would not meet with His smile of approval.

3. The believer must have ONE WORRY or concern. “But I would have you without carefulness (without concern, worry, anxiety). He that is unmarried careth for (is concerned about, is worried about) the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord” (1 Cor. 7:32). Paul is directing his comments to the unmarried man, but the principle set forth can be applied by all believers. Paul was saying, “I don’t want you to worry or be concerned in the wrong way, but if you must worry about something, then worry about your relationship to the Lord and how you might be pleasing to Him.”

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org

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