

Launching Text: John 16:33 These things (My Words) I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

1-Peter 5:8-9 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walking about, seeking whom he may devour:⁹ Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

1-Cor 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Mark 11:22-24 ...Have faith in God. For I (Jesus) say unto you that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, be thou removed and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, what things so ever you desire, when you pray (or confess), believe that you shall receive them and you shall have them.

Preaching Text: Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, & gave himself for me.

INTRO: We live in a troubled world. The devil will make sure your life is plagued by all kinds of trouble, but we have a PROMISE: 1-Cor 15:57 Thanks be to God that gives us the victory through the Lord Jesus Christ. John 10:10 ...Jesus said that He came to give us life and not only life, but LIFE MORE ABUNDANTLY! God wants us to have the best blessed life with victory and it comes by what we do---Fidelity or Loyalty to God. God has already provided the means for us and not it is up to us and this message deals with that issue.

1. LIVING BY FIDELITY REQUIRES A DECISION TO BE MADE. (Jesus is Saviour, Lord, & King)

Text: Gal 2:20a: I am crucified with Christ....

Matthew 16:25-26 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

Colossians 2:10 teaches us that ...in Christ we are complete.

1. We Must Make The Decision To Humble Ourselves

Romans 12:3 says ...for us not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think, but to think soberly

1-Pet 5:6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

Proverbs 29:23 A man's pride shall bring him low: but honor shall uphold the humble in spirit.

Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2-Chronicles 12:12 And when he (King Rehoboam) humbled himself, the wrath of the LORD turned from him, that He would not destroy him altogether: and also in Judah things went well.

2. We Must Make The Decision To Yield Ourselves

Romans 6:12-13 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

¹³ Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, & your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Hebrews 13:17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls

3. We Must Make the Decision To Separate Ourselves

2-Corinthians 6:17-18 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. ¹⁸ And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

Ephesians 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

4. We Must Make the Decision To Cast Ourselves

1-Peter 5:7 Casting all your care on Jesus; for He cares for you.

Psalms 55:22 Cast thy burden upon the Lord, for He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

*JESUS IN ME IS MY SALVATION & POWER
JESUS FOR ME IS MY DEFENDER & FRIEND
JESUS WITH ME IS MY COMFORT & HELP
WHEN I CHOOSE JESUS, IT PLEASES HIM!*

1. LIVING BY FIDELITY REQUIRES A DECISION TO BE MADE.**2. LIVING BY FIDELITY REQUIRES A DEVOTION TO BE MANAGED.** (*Selfishness must die!*)

Text: Galatians 2:20a-b: I am crucified with Christ: never-the-less I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me....

Luke 14:26-27 If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.²⁷ And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be My disciple.

Luke 14:33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsakes not all that he hath, he cannot be My disciple.

1. We Must Manage Our Devotion In Our Relationships (*Samson & Delilah---Judges 13-16*)

Above Text: Luke 14:26 If any man come to me, & hate not (or prefers Me over) his father, & mother, & wife, and children, & brethren, & sisters, yea, & his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.

Matthew 22:36-40 Master, which is the great commandment in the law? ³⁷ Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. ³⁸ This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

1-John 3:14-18 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. ¹⁵ Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. ¹⁶ Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. ¹⁷ But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? ¹⁸ My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

2. We Must Manage Our Devotion In Our Regimentation (*Obedience*) (*Peter followed afar off---Mat 26:58*)

Above Text: Luke 14:27 ²⁷ And whosoever doth not bear his cross, & come after me, cannot be My disciple.

Luke 9:23 Jesus said to them all, if any come after Me, let him deny himself, take up His cross daily, and follow Me.

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way which seems right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Proverbs 21:16 The man that wanders out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead.

1-John 2:6 He that says he abides in Him (Jesus) ought himself also so to walk, even as He (Jesus) walked.

2-Thess 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you and keep you from evil.

(Managing Our Devotion involves The Word, Our Walk, Worship, Warfare, & Work!)

3. We Must Manage Our Devotion In Our Resources (*The Rich Young Ruler---Mark10:17-22*)

Above Text: Luke 14:33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsakes not (or prefers Me over) all that he hath, he cannot be My disciple.

Colossians 1:16-17 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Philippians 4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory.

2-Peter 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

Philippians 4:11for I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

3. LIVING IN FIDELITY REQUIRE A DEDICATION TO BE MAINTAINED. (*Discipline*)

Text: Galatians 2:20a-b-c: I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, & gave himself for me.

Hebrews 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

1. We Must Be Dedicated To Live By Faith With No Reservations

2-Corinthians 6:2 (For He (the Lord) says, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

Romans 13:11-12 And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.¹² The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

2. We Must Be Dedicated To Live By Faith With No Rivals

Exodus 20:3-4 Thou shalt have no other gods before me. ⁴ Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

3. We Must Be Dedicated To Live By Faith With No Rebellion

John 14:21 He that hath My commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves Me: and he that loves Me (considering Me precious) shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, & will manifest myself to him.

Isaiah 1:19-20 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: ²⁰ But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.