

As true believers in Christ, what does God expect from us?

Ephesians 1:4-5, "He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will."

As such:

1 Peter 2:9, "You *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

Ephesians 2:10, "We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."

What's more?

Romans 14:8, "If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's."

As such Jesus said:

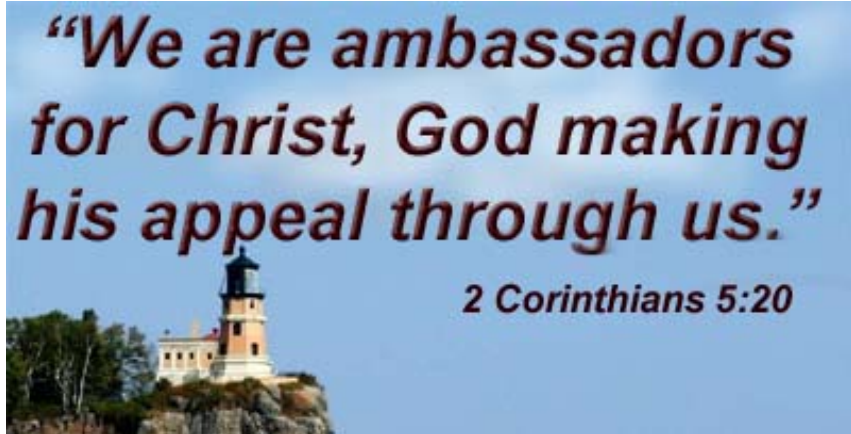
John 15:16, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you."

Therefore He added:

John 10:27, "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."

How steadfast am I to follow Christ right now?

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How must we live to truly and wholeheartedly follow Christ, as He himself taught us?

John 14:23, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.”

John 8:31-32, “If you abide in My Word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

John 15:9, “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.”

John 14:15, “If you love Me, keep My commandments.”

As such:

Romans 6:4, “We were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

2 John 6, “This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.”

Why?

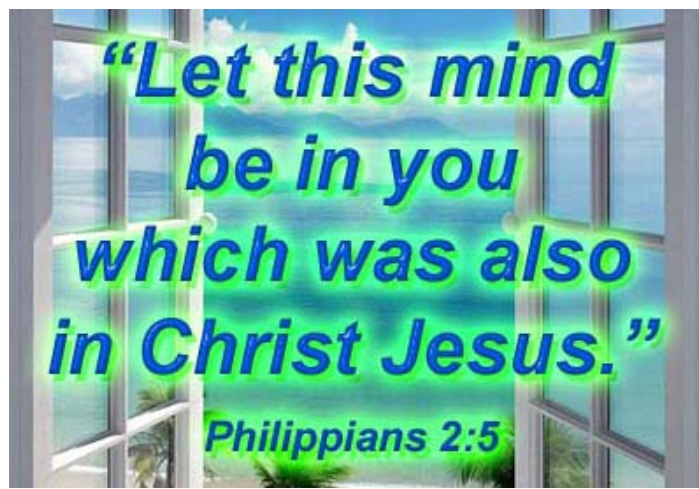
Philippians 3:20, “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Therefore:

Ephesians 6:13, “Take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

Does my life display the light of Christ in all circumstances, whether I am at home, at work, or everywhere for that matter?

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What must the focus of our lives be in order to identify with, and be a testimony for Christ?

Colossians 2:6-7, "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught."

Colossians 3:1-2, "If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth."

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

What are Jesus' teachings and commands on this?

Luke 9:23: "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."

Matthew 5:16: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

John 15:5, "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."

Therefore:

2 Corinthians 10:5, "We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."

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Where must we seek to find the power, to live to identify with and abide in Christ?

Hebrews 4:12, "The Word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

As such:

2 Timothy 1:7, "God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline."

What's more?

Philippians 2:9-11, "God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

2 Peter 1:3, "His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue."

Therefore:

Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, for I *am* with you; be not dismayed, for I *am* your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

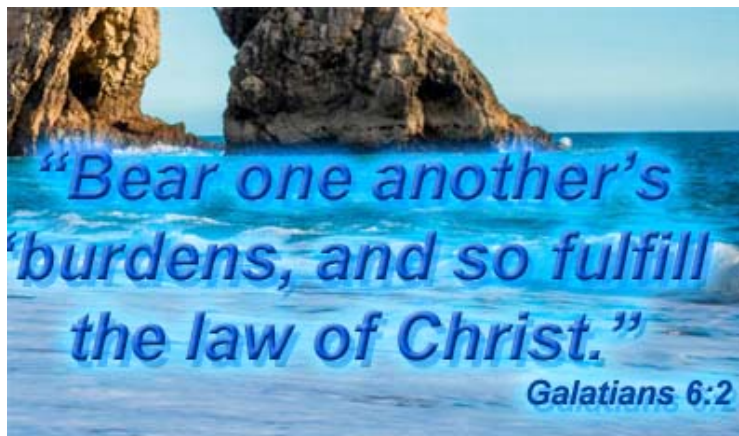
And so:

Psalms 27:1, "The LORD *is* my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?"

Romans 8:14, "As many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God."

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Having made a confession of faith in Christ, how must I live in the world so I truly abide by His Word?

Colossians 3:12, "Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering."

Why?

Romans 12:4-5, "For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."

1 Corinthians 6:11, "You were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."

What's more?

Luke 6:27-28, "I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you."

Titus 3:1, "Be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work."

As such:

Romans 15:7, "Receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God."

And a solid proof of identifying with Christ is:

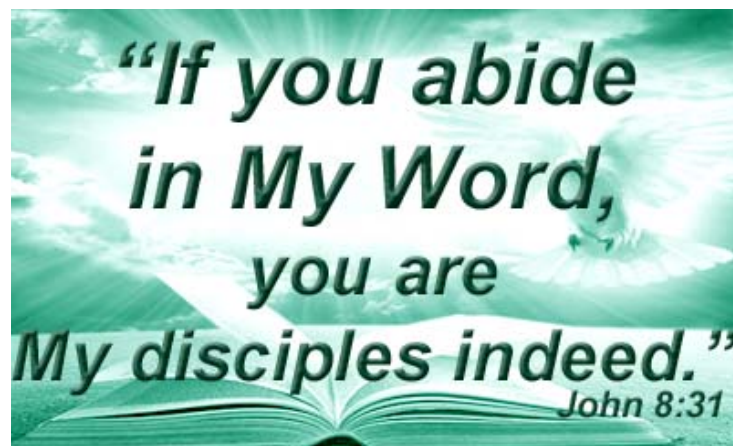
John 15:12, "This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

Therefore:

John 15:10, "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love."

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How must we live to abide in Christ, bear fruit and be His disciple?

John 14:21, “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

John 15:5, “I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

As such:

Galatians 5:22-24, “The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. And those *who are* Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.”

1 John 2:5, “Whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him.”

2 Corinthians 5:17, “If anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

What’s more?

2 John 9, “He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.”

Therefore:

1 John 2:6, “He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.”

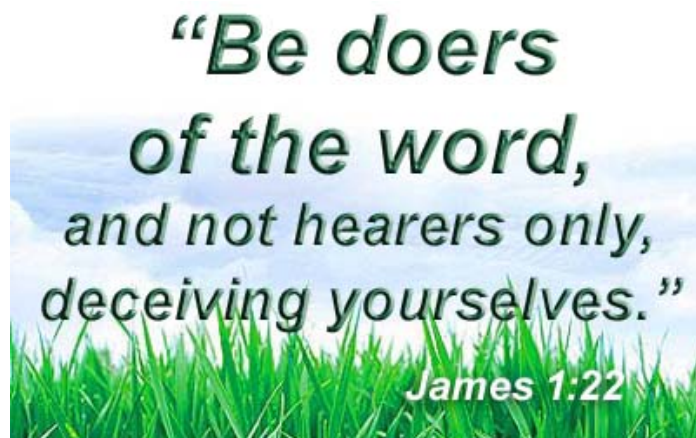
On the other hand Jesus said:

John 15:6, “If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned.”

Am I a disciple of Christ?

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How are we to live so we truthfully learn to abide in Christ to the glory of God?

Joshua 1:8, “This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it.”

Why?

Matthew 4:4, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.”

What’s more?

Matthew 7:26-27, “Everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

Luke 6:46, “Why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?”

As such:

Proverbs 10:17, “He who keeps instruction *is in* the way of life, but he who refuses correction goes astray.”

1 Corinthians 6:19-20, “Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

Therefore:

Jeremiah 7:23, “Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.”

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