Dos and Donts for the Christian

How many times do you hear, you have to do this, you can’t do that. I want to do this but my Mom won’t let me. Tonight, we want to look at the subject of the dos and don’ts of Christians.

First we will look at some dos. There is not any rhyme or reason, just good straight forward lesson to apply to your life.

1. One of the duties or priviledges we have as a Christian is to pray. I Thes 5:17, 18 tells us so.

1Th 5:17 Pray without ceasing.

1Th 5:18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

How do we know that we are to pray. Jesus prayed all the time. Look at these examples:

When baptized Luke 3:21

On the night before he selected the twelve Luke 6:12

After he sent the multitudes away Mt 14:23

When he went into the desert place Mark 1:35

At the conclusion of his parting message to the apostles John 17

Before his arrest Matt 26

While dying on the cross Luke 23

The church prayed too:

Act 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls.

Act 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Peter was in prison. Act 12:5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

Rom 12:12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

Laying by in store.

Many people forget how important a duty it is as a Christian to give.

From the beginning it was so and Cain and Able were to give.

This example shows that giving should be with respect.

Christ showed concern too. He sat at the treasury to show a lesson. Mark 12:41

Mar 12:41 And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much.

Mar 12:42 And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing.

Mar 12:43 And he called *unto him* his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury:

Mar 12:44 For all *they* did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, *even* all her living.

In Acts 5 1-11, Ananias and Sapphira made a gift, but they lied when they did it. They held back part of it and lied about it and were killed on the spot.

We must remember not to mock God as we give.

We should also remember that we are stewards of everything we have and everything we have is through God who gave it to us.

Teach.

All Christians have the obligation or duty to teach.

Not everyone will stand here and teach, not everyone will teach a bible class, but everyone does teach.

Matt 4:18 and 19.

Mat 4:18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

Mat 4:19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Joh 1:40 One of the two which heard John *speak,* and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

Joh 1:41 He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

When Andrew heard the word, he went to his brother and told him about it. When you found the Lord after your baptism, did you tell someone?

Paul taught house to house

Act 20:20 *And* how I kept back nothing that was profitable *unto you,* but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,

Act 20:21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Aquilla and Priscilla set a good example.

Act 18:24 And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, *and* mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus.

Act 18:25 This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.

Act 18:26 And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto *them,* and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.

If you met someone who taught error or did not fully understand, would you try to straighten them out?

Take heed lest ye fall

1Co 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

There are lots of people that say they willnot fall

Heb 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Heb 10:39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

I wanted to read most of second Peter, but turn with me.

2Pe 2:18 For when they speak great swelling *words* of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, *through much* wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

2Pe 2:19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

2Pe 2:20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

2Pe 2:21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it,* to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

**2Pe 2:22** But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

Once we have put on Christ in baptism, we can fall back and we need to be watching for that. Look at the two examples.

Dog vomit.

Pig in the mud. Why wash??

Your soul is dependent on you sowing Gal 6:7-9 and to Jesus spewed those out of his mouth that were luke warm, the sometimes Christian.

Now let’s look at don’ts.

Don’t forsake the assembling of ourselves together.

Heb 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is;* but exhorting *one another:* and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

**Heb 10:26** For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

Do we have to go to church?

Act 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Did they just have nothing better to do? No football to watch.

They did it at Troas.

Act 20:7 And upon the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

Why come? Proof of our love of the lord. We show our faith by our works James 2:18.

Increase our knowledge in the word. II Peter 1:5.

So we grow, I Peter 2:2

Because we need all the help we can get!! I can go on and on, but I will stop there.

**Don’t Waste Time**

Do you love your life? Then don’t waste it!!

**Eph 5:16** Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

The best way to put this is you cannot add years to your life, but you can add life to your years!!

**Heb 5:12** For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which *be* the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

There was a time to be teachers and they let this time just slip away.

Mat 20:6 And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?

Pro 23:21 For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe *a man* with rags.

How is time wasted:

Lack of application

Pro 6:6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

Be organized

Pro 22:29 Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean *men.*

Unwholesome recreation and entertainment I Thess 5:22

Forget past mistakes Phil 3:13-14

Worry about the future. Rom 8:28

**Don’t Sin with the tougue**

**Psa 39:1 To the chief Musician, *even* to Jeduthun, A Psalm of David. I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me.**

We need to watch the words we speak, the real filthy words and the words that mean the same thing, but the world says they are light cuss words. They are all wrong.

Col 3:8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

Gossip

Tale bearing has always been an awful meance to society.

Pro 11:13 A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.

Railing is forbidden. This means to insult or revile.

1Ti 6:4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,

1Ti 6:5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.

Hasty words. James says:

Jas 1:19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

Jas 1:20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

I could go on and on and teach a lesson on each one. There is being deceitful, boasting, murmuring and complaining, not to mention false teaching.

My last point tonight is not to be fashioned to this world.

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

When we become Christians we are changed. We are not part of the world, be we are sanctified, separated from the world. Church means called out and that we are living in the world be we are not part of the world.

We are warned not to follow the multitude.

Exo 23:2 Thou shalt not follow a multitude to *do* evil;

1Th 5:22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

These things are hard to accept and apply to our lives.

Jas 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

Jesus said that he who is not with him is against him. Who do you hang around with that are against God? Do you hang around them?

**1Jn 2:15** Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1Jn 2:16 For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

1Jn 2:17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

There are so many things that we could talk about that we really do not have time for, but as a saved person, why would you have your associations with those who are evil? Do you think they will help you get to heaven?

There are so many things that I could talk about but just do not have the time. Please study on these things and make sure that the things we need to do, we do, and the things we should not do, we do not.