

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why is it important to be a good example?
2. Are we also an example or testimony to God?
3. How difficult is it to be a good example during trying times?
4. How effective is our witness when we take a difficult situation patiently?

### SUMMARY:

Being a Christian is more than just having a one-time experience with Christ; it is a continual experience of growing and dedication of our lives to the cause of Jesus Christ and His purpose, and to holiness.

The Bible is clear in setting guidelines for our Christian walk. Can we view ourselves in the mirror of this text and not see areas in our lives that need cleansing? May Jesus sanctify us and cleanse us by the washing of the Word. [\[SoF:8\]](#)

### NOTES:

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[\[SoF:6\]](#) We believe that all are sinners and lost, awaiting the judgment of God, but God is not willing that any should be lost. [\[SoF:7\]](#) We believe that sinners may have salvation by repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ. [\[SoF:8\]](#) We believe that a saving faith results in regeneration by the Holy Spirit and the Word of God, without which there is no salvation. [\[SoF:9\]](#) We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling the believer is empowered to live a Godly life in spiritual unity with Christ.

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #13

December 25, 2016

Fourth Quarter

### THE CHRISTIAN'S EXAMPLE

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**LESSON TEXT:** *1 Peter 2:9-25*

**LESSON SETTING:** A letter written by Peter probably from Rome to the Christians scattered throughout Asia Minor.

**TIME:** Approximately 65 A.D.

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- I. CALLED OUT OF DARKNESS.** [\[SoF:6\]](#) 1 Peter 2:9-10
  - A. Blind - 2 Corinthians 3:14; 4:4; 1 John 2:11
  - B. From Death to Life - John 5:24; 1 John 3:14
- II. CALLED UNTO RIGHTEOUSNESS.** [\[SoF:7\]](#) 1 Peter 2:11-20
  - A. By Faith - Romans 4:13; 9:30; 10:6; 3:22
  - B. In Christ - Jeremiah 23:6; Daniel 9:24; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2 Corinthians 5:21
- III. CALLED TO FOLLOW CHRIST.** [\[SoF:9\]](#) 1 Peter 2:21-25
  - A. In Suffering - 1 Timothy 4:10; 2 Timothy 1:12; 3:12; 1 Peter 3:17
  - B. In Joy - Acts 16:34; John 16:33; Philippians 3:3

**GOLDEN TEXT: ... CHRIST ALSO SUFFERED FOR US, LEAVING US AN EXAMPLE, THAT YE SHOULD FOLLOW HIS STEPS:**

1 Peter 2:21

**NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON:** 1 Peter 3:1-22  
**SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES:** Ephesians 5:1-21

**QUARTERLY THEME:** The Early Church

**TOPIC:** CHRISTIAN LIVING

**INTRODUCTION:**

Christian living is obeying explicitly two commandments: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself." (Luke 10:27) These commandments can only be obeyed if Christ has full possession of our hearts, then all examples that Peter suggests in 1 Peter 3 will be obeyed.

We are modest, submissive, humble, compassionate, loving, pitiful, courteous, speaking no evil and willing to suffer for His sake. If our hearts are filled with love for God and for our neighbor it is impossible that other things can find room therein.

If we obey His commandments, regardless of what may befall us, we know it is for our good, whether it seems that way or not. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God . . ." (Romans 8:28)

**CENTRAL TRUTH:** Those who live godly lives can expect God's blessing, care and protection.

**GOLDEN TEXT:** *THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE OVER THE RIGHTEOUS, AND HIS EARS ARE OPEN UNTO THEIR PRAYERS.*

1 Peter 3:12

Peter was inspired by the Holy Spirit to write many instructions for righteous living. He exhorts us to follow Christ's example in all things. Then, in this Golden Text He gives this wonderful assurance that should make us willing to put forth every effort toward righteousness. To know that the eyes of the Lord are watching over us, and that His ears are open to our prayers should give us every cause to "live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." (Titus 2:12)

The Word of God gives us all the instructions concerning His plan for redemption and allows us to make our choice. Peter concludes this Golden Text verse with these words, "but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil."

God grants grace for Christian living, but we must make the choice and put forth our effort, knowing that He will hear our prayers.

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Dec. 26 – Jan. 1**

- M. Considerate Living. Galatians 6:1-10
- T. Clean Living. Ephesians 5:1-6
- W. Separated Living. Ephesians 5:7-14
- T. Wise Living. Ephesians 5:15-21
- F. \*Righteous Living. 1 Peter 3:1-7
- S. \*Godly Living. 1 Peter 3:8-14
- S. \*Christ Our Example. 1 Peter 3:15-22

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