

June 2019 Newsletter

“From Heaven’s Heart”

Do You Want God’s Blessings?

Did you know that in order to receive God’s blessings, He commands that we do Four Primary things?

I can actually summarize all four in one word. Obey! You may already be saying, “That’s impossible. Not a day goes by that I don’t mess up, say something, do something.” And you are right. I’m right there with you. However, these four things that God commands us to do, (for our own good, so He can bless us) we can do. They are not difficult at all.

Yet still, many people simply refuse to do them. And there are costs associated with our disobedience. Heaven’s blessing will not come. We are not just slipping up. We are intentionally refusing His command.

Do you want God’s blessings? Then stay with me and decide right now that you will do these four things God says will guarantee His blessings. Commit to doing them for starting this week and you’ll be amazed at the blessings that will follow.

1. God Commands Us To!

Develop an attitude of gratitude. Thessalonians 5:18 say, “Give God thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” It does not say be thankful for all things but in all things. Psychologists say that gratitude is the healthiest emotion. It reduces stress and gives us energy that stress will rob from us. We need energy to fight and win during life’s battles. Haven’t you found this to be true? People who are the most grateful are always the happiest people you’ll ever know. Look for ways this week to be grateful. Call someone and express your appreciation for his or her friendship and don’t forget to thank God. Start singing our hymns with enthusiasm and praise to God and watch your attitude change. Do this one and you’ve already received a blessing. Stress and worry is reduced as we become grateful to God and to others.

2. God Commands Us To!

Cultivate inner joy by giving. James teaches us, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” Acts 20:35 “God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Cor. 9:7 Why! Perhaps it is because we are most like God when we give and he does not give grudgingly. And our giving determines how much God can do in our lives. When we give to Him gladly, we open ourselves to receive from him freely.

Malachi 3:10 “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. *Test me in this says the Lord Almighty and see if I will not throw open the*

floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."

Do you feel like God has forgotten you when it comes to His blessings? How's your attitude of gratitude and how's your giving? Are you bringing your tithes to His storehouse joyfully, glad to give to Him? We cannot out give God. As a Godly old farmer said, "I shovel into God's storehouse and He shovels into mine and God has a bigger shovel."

3. God Commands Us To!

Develop inner joy through service. Give your life to helping others. Jesus said, "We must lose our life to save it." Mark 8:35 Ephesians 6:7-8 Serve wholeheartedly as if you were serving the Lord, not men because you know that *the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does*. The happiest people are usually too busy serving others to ask themselves "Am I happy?" Joy comes as we get our focus off of ourselves and on helping others.

4. God Commands Us To!

Share Christ with others. Jesus says, "There is rejoicing in heaven when a person comes to faith in Christ." Luke 15:10 When you do the first three, God will bless you with new insight, new enthusiasm, and the perfect opportunity to be a witness to another person. Allow God to use you to lead someone to Christ and you will experience no greater joy in your life than knowing, someone's life has been saved from Hell and eternal damnation.

We have a choice in most things in life. We can choose to live for ourselves or for others. Develop an attitude of gratitude toward God...all He's done and is doing for you and for others. We all need each other. Give generously to God with your tithe and your offerings so He can give freely back to you. Give of your time and gifts by serving others, and finally, allow God to use you to share the Gospel of Christ with others so they can have what you have in a close, personal, loving relationship with their Lord and Savior. And His blessing will flow down upon their life and yours.

Do you want God's blessings on your life? These are not suggestions. These are commands that require us to make a choice. Not one of these commands is difficult. God says, "Put me to the test and I'll prove all I have said is true."

With the deepest love for you,

Pastor Steve