

Be a Positive Person

Lesson Text: **Philippians 2:5**

INTRODUCTION:

- A. **Philippians 2:5** – Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.
- B. On page 15 of the November, 2003 edition of Bulletin Digest, someone is quoted to have said: “The true Christian is a person who is right-side up in a world that is upside-down.”
 - 1. Sometimes that statement is rather descriptive of our lives.
 - 2. Sometimes we may find it more difficult to be as positive as God would have us to be.
 - 3. Certainly one of the great ingredients contributing to being positive is faith.
- C. In this study let us examine some things to do to be a more positive person.

1. **THINK** Positive Thoughts

- A. **Philippians 4:8** - Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy -- meditate on these things.
- B. Some Christians fail to discipline their thinking. They allow negative to dominate their minds.
- C. Christians must take deliberate action, replacing negative thoughts with positives and keeping an optimistic outlook.

2. **HEAR** Positive Sounds

- A. **Isaiah 22:14** - Then it was revealed in my hearing by the LORD of hosts . . .
- B. many people listen to the filth, smut, and destruction coming across the airwaves. Their spirits are dwarfed.
- C. We must listen to the good, not the bad. We must hear from the Lord and heed His Word.

3. **SEE** Positive Sights

- A. **Hebrews 12:2** - Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith . . .
- B. Some Christians look for the bad in people and circumstances, seeing only the faults and negatives.
- C. To be a positive person one must look for the good and look to Jesus.
- D. **Psalms 101:3** – I will set nothing wicked before my eyes.

4. **SPEAK Positive Words**

- A. **Psalm 105:2** - . . . Talk of all His wondrous works.
- B. Many people talk mostly about evil and bad events. Some are harsh, unkind, and take God’s name in vain.
- C. We should talk positively, seeking to glorify God by extolling His goodness, grace and love.

5. **PERFORM Positive Deeds**

- A. **Colossians 3:23** – And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.
- B. The deeds of many are negative. They are selfishly motivated, dishonest, and displeasing to God.
- B. We must be truthful, ready to lift those who are down, and serve as a good Christian example to others.

6. **ATTEND Positive Places**

- A. **Psalm 122:1** – I was glad when they said to me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.
- B. Christians hurt their influence when they go to the wrong places in search of entertainment.
- C. Be a positive Christian.
 - 1. Attend church services faithfully.
 - 2. God with God and he will go with you.

CONCLUSION:

- A. To be a positive person:
 - 1. **THINK** positive thoughts.
 - 2. **HEAR** positive sounds.
 - 3. **SEE** positive sights.
 - 4. **SPEAK** positive words.
 - 5. **PERFORM** positive deeds.
 - 6. **ATTEND** positive places.
- B. **Psalm 101:2** – I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way.
- C. Christians need to be leaders:
 - 1. Lead by example.
 - 2. Lead through faithfulness.
 - 3. Lead through study.
 - 4. Lead through obedience.
 - 5. Lead through involvement
- D. **God’s Plan for Man’s Obedience**