

Developing A Good Attitude

A good positive attitude is a must to every Christian. God is not only concerned about what we do but our attitude as we do them. In our giving, it is not enough that we give well, God also wants us to give cheerfully and willingly (2 Cor. 9:7). In our singing it is not just the uttering of proper words that God wants, but the “*singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord*” (Col. 3:16). These are all attitudes. God expects us to have good attitudes.’

The difference between the Christian who sees problems and gets discouraged and the one who seeks solutions is attitude. The attitudes that are manifest when folks disagree can determine whether brethren get along with each other or a declaration of war must be declared. Doctors often say that the attitude a patient has is as important to their recovery and well being as the medicine that they receive.

Attitude. How do I develop a good attitude that is well pleasing unto the Lord? I must understand that a good attitude doesn’t just happen nor is it picked up on the streets. We live in a negative and nasty world. Paul wrote, “*Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: (Phil 2:5)*).

The Good Attitude of a Christian comes from:

1. **Putting out the Negatives.** “...*We are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ*” (2 Cor. 10:5). Do not dwell upon the problems, the bad, and the pains of life. They only take away the good attitude. Do not spend a lot of time with negative people, they only discourage you.

2. **Thinking of Heaven.** “*Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth*” (Col. 3:2). Someday, we Christians will be home with God in Heaven. We need to focus on going home. This world, as good as it can be, is nothing to what Heaven will be like. The Bible ends with these positive words, “*Come, Lord Jesus*” (Rev 22:20). How can I have a bad attitude when I know that I’m going to heaven?!

3. **Counting your Blessings.** Ancient Israel was punished for murmuring and complaining to God (1 Cor. 10:10-13). We are blessed as a nation. We are blessed as the people of God. Rejoice and fill your hearts with thanksgiving. Doing things for other people will help you get your mind off of your self and open your eyes to a world rich in blessings.

4. Filling your mind with the Word of God. “...*His delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night*” (Ps. 1:2). Many a person will stay awake at night thinking about their problems. The Psalmist thought of God’s word. Poor attitudes, sour dispositions, and grumpy spirits are indications of little faith in God. Paul when in chains in a Roman prison could tell brethren who were free on the outside “*Rejoice in the Lord*” (Phil 4:4). Happiness, and good attitudes are not based upon what you have or where you are at. They come from knowing who you are and where you are going. Paul the prisoner could be happy and have a good attitude because he knew that he was a Christian.

5. Dwelling upon the good things. In Phil. 4:8, we are told to think about those things that are pure, honest, true, just, lovely and worthy of praise. These are what our minds should be focusing upon. No one can control our thoughts or our spirits. A person may be imprisoned and his freedom taken away. But no person can take away our thoughts. Choose to think about good thing. Surround yourself with good thinking people. Read material that will give you good thoughts. Listen to programs that will leave you with good thoughts. It is all a matter of choice! Some want to cripple the mind and drown in the sorrow of discouragement. Why? Decide to think right! The good attitude will be expressed in sweet and kind words to one another. It will show itself by being a helper in the congregation. The person with the good attitude is a compliment to any congregation. They are a delight to the Lord.

How is your attitude?

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