

ARE YOU A FAITHFUL SERVANT OF JESUS CHRIST? Pt. 4

A. IMPORTANT OBSERVATIONS about FAITHFULNESS.

- 1. While God alone is described as ABSOLUTELY faithful, occasionally men and women are described as RELATIVELY faithful. God desires, notes, and esteems FAITHFUL men and women, though they are in the MINORITY. (Prov. 20:6; Prov. 31:10ff; Ezek. 22:30; Mic. 7:2)**
- 2. Faithfulness is an issue of God's GRACE & personal INTEGRITY, not perfection. (Prov. 20:6-7a)**
- 3. Faithful believers are a BLESSING to their CHILDREN and OTHERS. (Prov. 20:7b)**
- 4. Faithfulness & spiritual integrity involve such qualities as:**
 - a) Loving the LORD more than the PRAISE of men, including unbelievers, believers, and even family. (Psalm 31:23-24; John 12:42-43; Gal. 1:10; Luke 14:26)**
 - b) Handling MONEY responsibly. (Numb. 13:13; Prov. 28:20; 1 Tim. 3:3, 6:10-12)**
 - c) Not speaking LIES or FLATTERING words due to deceitful HEARTS. (Ps. 12:1-4; Prov. 14:5)**
 - d) Not SLANDERING others & revealing SECRETS but CONCEALING matters that need not be revealed. (Prov. 11:13)**
 - e) Operating from biblical PRINCIPLE, not your HVP & feelings. (Ps. 78:5-8; John 8:30-32)**
 - f) In CORRECTING even your friends out of love vs. DECEITFUL KISSES. (Prov. 27:6)**
 - g) In TAKING CORRECTION from others to become wise and faithful. (Ps. 141:5-7)**
 - h) In carrying out and conveying a MESSAGE accurately to others. (Prov. 25:13; 1 Tim. 6:20-21; 2 Tim. 2:1-2, 15-21)**
 - i) In ADMITTING when you are wrong and getting it RIGHT before God & others, as well as FORGIVING one another. (Prov. 28:13; Luke 17:3-4; Eph. 4:30-32)**
- 5. Faithfulness manifests itself in seeking to do God's _____ and _____ Him, and it can be motivated by the _____ and the _____. (Neh. 7:2; 2 Cor. 5:9-10, 14-15)**

6. Faithfulness is the _____ of the Holy Spirit working in your life, not sheer human will-power, in making the believer more and more like Jesus Christ (Gal. 5:22-23; Rom. 7)

7. Faithfulness unto death in doing God's will, especially in persecution, will result in a reward from Jesus Christ called _____. (Rev. 2:10)

B. IMPERATIVE IMPLICATIONS about FAITHFULNESS.

1. Realize that being faithful to the Lord begins _____ with the _____ which God has given you. But you must be selective in what you are devoted to with godly, eternal priorities. (Ecc. 9:10; Col. 3:23; 1 Cor. 10:31)

2. Recognize that God measures success by _____ to Him & His Word, not in degrees, numbers, popularity, bank accounts, etc. (1 Cor. 4:1-2)

3. _____ in the Lord by faith and be enabled by the Holy Spirit to be faithful to God's will and Word, not relying on your own wisdom & strength. (Heb. 11:6; John 15:4-5)

4. Remember God's promise that "If we are _____, He remains _____; He cannot deny Himself. (2 Tim. 2:13)

- 1 Corinthians 4:1-5