

Divinely Blessed & Restored

My Way... or ... God's Way! ©

SUBMITTED BY:

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I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (Romans Ch. 12 vs. 1-2 KJV.)

Webster defines the word intentional as: done with intent (an act of determining mentally upon some action or result), done on purpose. So, an intentional decision is one that you have mentally contemplated upon, thought about, determining what action you wish to take. Sometimes decisions are minor, other times they are major. Some decisions we think about a long time before we settle upon a final action, and some decisions we just seem to make off the cuff, almost in auto pilot mood, because the consequences are minor. Some decisions, we spend a lot of time making because the consequence can be life changing. It is these types of decisions I say are "intentional decisions". Decisions, we as Christians face daily that makes us have to choose between My Way Or God's Way!

As Christians, there come a time, when we are to outgrow, my way, and become a person of intentional decision making, doing things...God's Way! This only occurs when we have a renewed mind, transformed in our thinking, to desire and seek after the acceptable and perfect will of God. We face a fork in the road where we ask our self, which way do I go, My Way..... or God's Way..... and intentionally choose....God's Way! But this doesn't just happen; there must be a transformation, a change in our lives...the renewing of our mind. So, you might ask, how do I renew my mind?

Renewing of the mind occurs when you have a living connection with God, an intimate relationship with God. This relationship develops when you spend time with Him, when you learn of Him by studying His word and as you abide with Him. John 15:4-5, the parable about the vine and the branches, describe how we will be if we have a living connection with Him and how we will be without one.

It reads: *“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches; He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing.”* KJV

If you abide, if you have a relationship with God, a connection with Him, you will be renewed and transformed as your character change to become as the vine you are connected to- like Jesus! If we want to see a change today, in our life, in our homes, in our neighborhoods, in our lives - it starts by deciding to take the road that is God’s Way! I say that because when you have a personal relationship with God, your life will be changed, you will be changed! II Corinthians 5:17 tell us: *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away: behold, all things are become new.”* KJV When you decide to take the road that is God’s Way, you will have a new walk, and you will have a new talk. Why? Because your actions, your behavior, your decisions will be Christ-Like, because you are in Christ! You will have the Love of God in you, which will fill you with a love for His people.

You see its God-like love that helps us to be loving to someone who is not loving to us in return. When we have God-like love we can “turn the other cheek”, we forget about “an eye for an eye”. With God-like love we have wisdom; we know the time for a gentle word versus a firm hand; we know the power of an apology and a hug, and we hear the plea for help hidden under shouts and yelling. God-like love requires you to start the cycle of love – even when you think the other person should be the one to make the first move because they were the one acting ugly, not you. God-like love knows to be still when the person you are around is having “one of those days”. God-like love chooses not to take offense and doesn’t keep score or sit and plan how to “get-even”. Can you image how the world would be today if we all had God-like love? But this God like love doesn’t just come; it’s a by-product of having a relationship with God. The closer we are to Christ, the more this type of love will show in us.

If you are traveling the road of God’s Way, you will have the desire to learn more about Him. You won’t keep Him in a box that you only open on Sunday. You won’t be just a hearer of the word, one that hear the word, but never stop and mediate upon the word so that it can take root in you life and change you. You won’t be a talker of the word, one that can very eloquently discuss what you read and quote scripture, but do not practice what you preach. You will be a doer of the word, one that read and/or hear the word, mediate upon the word, so that it takes root in your life and you are changed.

As we encounter our forks in the road, My Way or God's Way, remember that when you are connected with God, He promises Grace, Mercy, Love, Joy, Peace, Faith, Long Life, Hope For Tomorrow, Your Works Recorded in the Book of Life, and a New Home in Glory! With benefits like that, I don't know about you, but I don't want anything to keep me from taking the fork in the road that says.....*God's Way!*

HAVE YOU STARTED YOUR JOURNEY WITH CHRIST?

Our purpose in this article and daily scriptures is to encourage a heart-to-heart relationship with God. If you do not know God in a personal way, we invite you to make the first step today to receive God's love and the salvation that only Jesus Christ can give. Here are five steps you can take to receive salvation:

1. Recognize you are a sinner and need salvation. The Bible tells us "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23).
2. Repent of your sins. Sin separates us from God. By confessing your sins and turning from them you are forgiven. The Bible says: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:9).
3. Believe in Jesus. God sent His Son to die so that He could pay for all our sins. The Bible says: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life: (John 3:16).
4. Receive His Salvation. Jesus Christ is a gift you must receive and welcome to live in your heart. He promises: "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God: (John 1:12).
5. Confess your belief verbally. The Bible assures "If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved: (Rom. 10:9).

You now have been born again! Tell some else your good news and connect yourself with a church home as soon as possible. God Bless and Keep You!

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