

God will do the same for us if we walk in Jesus footsteps.
God will reward us for living a life of unselfishness.

- ❖ The hidden secret of a happy life here on earth – can only be found by you and I choosing to have an attitude of **UNSELFISHNESS**.

If we choose to begin to live a life of unselfishness; of putting others first – God will honor your choice.

You will find that feelings of hate will be replaced with a releasing flood of peace and happiness.

“When a man’s ways are pleasing to the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.” Proverbs 16:7

It all begins with us knowing Jesus Christ in a deep and personal way.

It all begins with us handing over the battles of our life to Jesus Christ and let him take the blows for us.

It all begins with you and I choosing the attitude, the mindset to live an unselfish life.

When we choose this attitude, we will find that Jesus will give us his joy – and we will find ourselves laughing again.

The Hidden Secret of a Happy Life

ATTITUDE is “a manner of acting, feeling, or thinking that shows a person’s disposition ... their opinion, their mental set.”

- “How we think determines how we respond to others.

“Our attitude toward the world around us depends upon what we are ourselves. If we are selfish, we will be suspicious of others. If we are of a generous nature, we will be likely to be more trustful. If we are quite honest with ourselves, we won’t always be anticipating deceit in others. If we are inclined to be fair, we won’t feel that we are being cheated. In a sense, looking at the people around you is like looking in a mirror. You see a reflection of yourself.”

- How Jesus thought determined how he responded to others.

Jesus described himself:

Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My load is light. Matthew 11:28-30

- The one word that sums up Jesus statement is “UNSELFISH.”

Unselfish means:

- ❖ To be humble in heart.
- ❖ To be submissive” to the core.
- ❖ To be more interested in serving the needs of others than in having one’s own needs met.

How do we cultivate an unselfish attitude and mindset and make it a lifestyle?

If therefore there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; do not merely look out for your own personal interest, but also for the interest of others. Philippians 2:1-4

Is there any such thing as Christians cheering each other up? Do you love me enough to want to help me? Does it mean anything to you that we are brothers and sisters in the Lord, sharing the same Spirit? Are your hearts tender and sympathetic at all? Then make me truly happy by loving each other and agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, working together with one heart and mind and purpose. (Philippians 2:1-4 The Living Bible)

This speaks to the way, we all as Christians, are called to live our lives! The “one heart and mind and purpose” speaks to unity, to a genuine Spirit-filled unselfishness that breeds strength and spreads joy.

The difference between uniformity and unity.

Uniformity:

- Uniformity is neither healthy or Biblical.
- Uniformity is gained by pressure from without.
- Uniformity has within it the word uniform.

As in - we all have to dress alike, look alike, sound alike, think alike, act alike.

Unity:

- Unity is both healthy and biblical.
- Unity comes from deep within us.

Unity is the inner desire to conduct oneself in a cooperative manner ... to be on the same team, to go for the same objectives, for the benefit of one another.

❖ **How is unity, harmony, and an unselfish attitude acquired?**

Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interest of others. Philippians 2:3-4

Three practical ideas that help us cultivate an unselfish attitude:

1) Never let selfishness or conceit by your motive.

Paul is telling us to “Do NOTHING from selfishness or empty conceit.

2) Always, regard others as more important than yourself.

This is not a natural trait for any of us, but it can become a habit that will transforming our lives.

3) Do not limit your attention to your own personal interests – include others.

❖ Being unselfish in attitude strikes at the very core of our being.

Have this same attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus. Philippians 2:5

❖ Jesus Christ is the perfect example of an unselfish attitude.

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bondservant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Philippians 2:5-8

❖ “Jesus becoming a human BEGAN with an attitude of submission ... a willingness to cooperate with God’s plan for salvation.”

Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2

It was not a pleasurable experience, but Jesus accepted His coming among us and His dying for us -- willingly and unselfishly.

Therefore, also God highly exalted Him. And bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:9-11

❖ Jesus life of submission to his Father’s will paid rich dividends.

God exalted Jesus Christ to the pinnacle of authority.

God gave to Jesus the name above all names. Jesus Christ is Lord.