

# Life is a Classroom!

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Every circumstance, every person, and every type of situation we encounter every day—is an opportunity to *learn* what God is *teaching*—this life is our classroom—and our *education* on godly ways of how to meet these things. This learning continues as we accept the lesson given and move on to the next.

After Jesus responded to several who called out Luke 17:13 “*Jesus, Master, have mercy on us,*” He responds from compassion and saying to the one man 19 “*Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.*”

Some Pharisees then asked 20 “*When the kingdom of God should come?*” He said it wasn’t something you could *see*, but something you *believe* and something that lives *inside your heart*—21 “*For, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.*”

With the Spirit of God in us, every day is a learning experience, and new lessons are given throughout the day. It begins with a willingness to *believe* in Jesus—and which involves many things—like: Trusting *God* to forgive our sins; Asking Him to *change* our rebellious heart to a submissive one; Asking God to heal any oppression; Asking for protection from evil; and Asking Him to give us a forgiving heart toward everyone.

It is more than just *saying* we believe in Jesus—we *should* say we believe, but then *acting*

like we really *do*—giving evidence that we are enrolled in life’s school of daily lessons. It is not just *verbal* statements but *acting* faith on our beliefs—it is “*Keeping the commandments of God*” 1 Corinthians 7:19—that is what matters.

Satan tries to have us believe that some *human* plan, power, or process will give the healing, the money, the protection, or the answer we seek, but trusting a *substitute plan* leads us further away from trusting the *divine plan*. Jesus said Luke 13:24 “*Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.*”

Very few will be *living by faith* in God when Jesus returns. Luke 17:26 “*As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man*”—and today, apostasy increases. Hebrews 11:7 “*By faith Noah—condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.*” Only eight people believed God enough to escape destruction!

Noah was right *with* God by acting in faith on the *Word* of God. Anyone can be righteous before God—just put *faith* in God. James 2:17 “*Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.*” Spoken faith alone is *not* valid faith—it must include *trusting* God for life issues. Noah *obeyed* God—giving evidence he *believed* God. *Obedience* or *disobedience* shows *where* or on *whom* our faith is placed.

Considering the lack of faith in the world *then*—and knowing that rebellion against God is worse *now*—we can reason that very *few* will be *ready* when Jesus returns Luke 18:8. Heaven is a most glorious place to be *enjoyed* forever; and Hell is the most horrible fate to be *suffered* forever! We must be *sure* we know the *definition* of a true believer.

Step one is a *rebirth* by *repentance*. 1 John 1:9 “*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*” This *new birth* starts a *new life*

that *wants* to trust God—for healing, for money, for protection, and for spiritual guidance every day.

This new attitude trusts God for His help when dealing with work issues, being patient with children, and having a forgiving spirit toward everyone. We are *not* permitted any *idols*—nor to have any person, plan, or proposal take the place of our *trust* on God and our *faith* in Christ.

An unbeliever depends on *drugs* for healing and on laid-up *cash* for provisions—but the believer depends on *God* for healing and trusts Him in faith for material needs. The world today puts insurance on everything, but all insurance coverage is unscriptural because all policies eliminate trust on God. Also, a believer in Christ does not involve the police or use legal means to avenge wrongs—because Romans 12:19 “*Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.*”

If we *believe* on the Lord Jesus, we will *see* spiritual fruit in our responses to tough things encountered. John 3:3 “*Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*” A new life *within* is born that *wants* to trust God for the ability to meet circumstances in a scriptural way—that is each day’s lesson and *that* is bearing fruit Luke 3:8 “*Worthy of repentance.*”

*Jewish heritage* does not make a *true believer*, but a *believing faith* on the Atonement of Christ *does*. Maintaining our faith in that Blood sacrifice must *continue* and *endure* to the end—no matter *what* trial or test is met.

The Parable of the Sower proves that *one-time* believers do not always *stay* believers. After *confessing* and *repenting*, there is a *committing* and *trusting* God—for everything. And everything means—*forgiving* from the heart; being *healed* through faith in Christ; having enough money

without borrowing; training children in love by explaining godly ways—that is each day’s faith *lesson* in the classroom of life.

God’s mercy has forgiven us so *many times*, it is only reasonable that we forgive others *every time!* Life is a classroom and every day we place our life in God’s hands as Romans 12:1 “*A living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God.*”

Only He has the right to say *how* we live our life; Only God has the right to know *where* we are going; He needs to know *who* we are with and *what* we intend to do. He never *forces* us to obey, but we are given the *choice* to obey.

Severe consequences result from *not* believing Jesus. Mark 10:15 “*Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.*” The *kingdom* of God is an *attitude* of the heart. Luke 17:21 “*The kingdom of God is within you*”—it is a heart that *believes* the Lord like a *child* does a *parent*.

God’s Word is the *instruction* on living; the Atonement of Christ is the *value* paid for the victory; and the Holy Spirit is the *power* within to carry through in faith. If we trust a *worldly* plan or *medical* process to bring relief—instead of trusting on the Blood of Christ through faith in God—the devil can begin the withering process. And he can quickly move us away from the *strait path* of faith in God, to the *wide road* of faith in the world.

Bible believers were persecuted for their faith, but they returned from being persecuted with Acts 5:41 “*Rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.*” No matter how badly they were treated, they would not compromise their faith in Jesus. Believers *trust* in the “*Exceeding greatness of [God’s] power*” Ephesians 1:19.

When a trial is *met* or an insult *heard*, we should ask how Jesus *told* us to meet this, and with the Spirit’s help, follow through. Instead of *complaining* or *resenting*, we should be *rejoicing* and

*praising* God—that we were given the opportunity to show spiritual fruit by meeting a difficult circumstance right. We either follow the *Word* to the *Kingdom*, or we follow the *world* to the *flames*.

When we take a scriptural attitude about anything, we are to *maintain* that attitude with God’s help. He promises to *search* our heart every day and *reveal* any spiritual lack. If we make a *mistake*, we just *repent* and *return* to be in God’s will on the issue. If we are rebellious and unwilling to correct mistakes, we could find ourselves outside pleading Luke 13:25 “*‘Lord, Lord, open for us,’ and He will answer and say to you, ‘I do not know you, where you are from.’*”

Any situation to which we *respond*, we are to ask God what a *believer* would do and do the same—with His help. If more people would do *that*, there would be many *less* people in the flames pleading for water to cool their tongue.

Life is a classroom and difficult things are *met* so that wrong attitudes can be *shown* and *known*—then *changed*. Only *God* knows our heart, so only *He* can show what is *in* it. Every injustice, financial problem, or physical oppression gives us the opportunity to *learn* a faith lesson in the classroom.

The *rebellious* nature must convert to a *submissive* one. Matthew 19:14, “*Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.*” It is childlike *faith* in a loving *parent* for *everything!*

Every test *met* is a lesson *given* to *grow* in faith by *trust* on God. If we *help* someone, but later they *insult* us—Satan will try to have us *resent* it. He makes comments on how *unjust* that was—but Matthew 6:14-15 “*If you forgive others their offences, your Heavenly Father will forgive you also. But if you do not forgive others their offences, neither will your Father forgive yours.*”

When *any* difficult issue is met, God will help us *forgive* from the heart—and *then* help us *forget* what took place. If we *will* forgive—Luke 17:10 “*We have done that which was our duty to do*”—*there is no merit in our service*”—it’s just the Kingdom within and learning our lessons in the classroom.

A *worst enemy* can become a *best friend*, if we will place the matter into God’s hands, learn the lesson, and move on to the next. Any *insult* is a *test* for the believer, but a *failure* for the unbeliever—who stumbles over the lesson because they do not learn from it and do not trust God to help them understand the lesson.

No one will *ever* regret meeting things *right*—and we keep in mind that Satan has a million *excuses* for not forgiving someone and for not following the Word. On the other hand, God has an endless eternity of joy and bliss if we *will* learn our lessons; If we *will* forgive from the heart; and, if we *will* keep trusting Him. We just make the *choice*—*God* gives the *ability*.

The advice of the *world* is always *opposite* to the *advice* from the Lord. The world says “*Sue them;*” but Jesus says “*Forgive them.*” The world says Store up *more* in *barns*; but God says *Less* is best by giving to the *poor!*

Anger, resentment, hard feelings, and jealousy can all be *dissolved* in a second if we will *trust* God, *follow* Jesus, *respond* by the Spirit, and *forgive* from the heart. Every insult; every need for money; and every physical attack is a classroom lesson on believing *with all our heart on the Lord Jesus Christ*. Learning our lessons and meeting things right—it is the *strait gate* so *few* enter *through!*



[www.fcgchurch.org](http://www.fcgchurch.org)

\*Be on our free mailing list—contact:

PO Box 24283

Philadelphia, PA 19120

[info@fcgchurch.org](mailto:info@fcgchurch.org)

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