SERVING GOD IN TRUTH!

+++

#2927 0307 21A **VIRTUAL**

We have definitely decided and are committed to our decision to serve God in truth. It is a life committed to actually living His Truth by the power of His Spirit and based on the merit of the atoning Blood of Jesus concerning every aspect of life. Serving God in truth is following His Word in life.

We have admitted that we have made many mistakes all too many times, and that we have broken the Ten Commandments more than we can count. We know that on the Day of Judgment—if every wrong *thought*; every unscriptural *attitude*; and all secret *sins* would be presented as evidence against us, we would be guilty and condemned to the lake of fire.

The *hope* we have, and the *solution* given is that Jesus took our place on the cross; that He *gave* His life and shed His Blood to *atone* for our sins; and that He rose from the grave, so we could rise to a new life of faith and trust in God. We can now be *pardoned* of all the sins, mistakes, and errors we *were* guilty of—because God *loves* us—Romans 5:8 "While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Serving God is trusting Him every day—it is confessing our sins to Him and being willing to

forsake them with His help. It is yielding our will to be God's will and following Jesus. Serving Him is presenting our life to Him every day—obeying Romans 12:1 "That ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Serving God is reading His Word each day and obeying the instructions He gives in the Scriptures. It is only by trusting in faith on the atoning Blood sacrifice made by the Lord Jesus, that we can live with Him—the only reason! We are to be eternally gratefully for that gift!

Matthew 6:24 "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." No one can serve two masters simultaneously—we must decide who or what we will serve during this life—and it means in eternal life if we decide correctly.

If we decide to serve *self*, however, we have decided as the devil did—we would be allied with him in *this* life *and* eternally in the next. *Serving God* means choosing the *elimination* of self in our heart. Joshua 24:14 "Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD."

Key words are: in sincerity and in truth—because not many who say they are a Christian, do either one—although they think they do by a statement of faith. Joshua said 15 "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

We have to admit that we are presently *serving* someone or something. We have to really

think about our spiritual commitment; about our statement of faith; and about our trust on the sacrifice of Atonement Jesus made—because that is the requirement of God if we want to serve God. How would we appear before the White Throne Judgment—what would we write down as the issue facing us!

An unbeliever must write: Condemned; but a believer can write: Forgiven. We are either one or the other—judged or justified! There is no in-between position. If we think that we would be condemned, we still have hope—God's mercy enables us to be forgiven—if we repent.

2 Corinthians 6:1 "We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. 2 For He says: 'In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you.' Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

Today is the day to repent and be committed to serving God in truth—who writes Revelation 12:10 "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night."

Satan accuses believers constantly and he tells us there is no hope; no way to be saved—but we reply that the accuser of our brethren is cast down, therefore he must flee, because we serve and trust and believe in the living God who sent His Son to pay for our sins—sins that would have condemned us but cannot anymore—we have decided to serve God—not the world.

A new attitude is now part of our life and personality—we are *not* the same person we were—2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Those things we *once* loved, we no *longer* want; those attitudes we *once* kept, we now *discard*. We are *Serving God in Truth* so we emulate the attitude the Lord Jesus had toward people. Philippians 2:5 "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus."

We are a *different* person—if we are *Serving God in Truth*. We have confessed our sins to Him in the sincerity of our heart—so God sees us as a *new creature* and *justified*, because a *ransom* for our life has been paid. No debt remains—all our sins from the past are gone. From this point we *Serve God in Truth* concerning any choice we have to make.

From our decision to *serve* God, the *Son* of God is in our heart and His Spirit is controlling our life. We may not fully understand this big *change* and new *life* at first—and the world does not understand it, but it is *real* and *possible*—by a *definite decision* on *our* part.

Colossians 1:26 "Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: 27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." It is not resentment, unbelief, or wrong attitudes in us anymore, but Jesus in us—His Spirit controlling us and bringing change.

We should be *humbled* by the changes in us; we should be *grateful* for the new attitudes in our heart; and we should be *thankful* that all those former things and attitudes we once thought were so important, are eliminated—they are *not* important anymore, but now worthwhile interests and Christ-like attitudes are *very* important and what we want to be in our heart.

Serving God means constantly quoting: Galatians 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the

faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

The more we *affirm* and *confirm* who we are in Christ, the more our behavior will *reflect* our new identity. John the Baptist paved the way for Jesus to personally give us His Truth in Person. The apostle said John 1:12 "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."

We are now part of the *family* of God—and not because of anything *we* could do; but only because of what *Christ* has done—that is why we have decided to be *Serving God in Truth* through faith in His Son. We become His *child* when we accept His *Son*—we *then* have the power to be part of His family of true believers—"To them that believe on His name" John 1:12, by trusting on His power to change our attitudes, our thoughts, and our *desires*.

Every day presents new opportunities to prove we belong to His family—"Power to become" more patient with children; "Power to become" more Christ-like in our treatment of others; "Power to become" more forgiving of those who offend us; "Power to become" more dependent on God for everyday needs; and "Power to become" the peacemaker in all interactions with family and friends.

Serving God in Truth means obeying the instructions His Son gave—listening, learning, and following the advice of Jesus regarding every aspect of life—which includes Luke 6:35 "Love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil." We are His friend—if we follow His advice. John 15:14 "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you."

Jesus said—John 15:15 "No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his

master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you."

God speaks to us from the pages of the Bible—we should *not* take that *lightly* but should consider it *seriously*—reading and learning to live by His instructions through the power of His Spirit. *Serving God in Truth* means being justified *by* God—and being acceptable *to Him*.

All that we need from God is received by faith in Him. Everyone needs justification for all the mistakes and errors of the past. Romans 5:1 "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Serving God means asking God for His Spirit to control our ways and words and wishes. 1 Corinthians 6:17 "He that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit." His Holy Spirit is resident within—1 Corinthians 6:19 we are to be united as one with the Spirit whom God has given. 1 Corinthians 6:20 "Ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

All we *say* and *do* and *decide* should be pleasing to God—they should be according to the instructions in the holy Scriptures. We are *one in spirit* with Jesus, as we *walk with Him* in truth, because God purchased our life on the Cross.

Hebrews 12:28 "Wherefore we [are] receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear." Serving God in Truth means we are receiving a kingdom from Him—one that is being prepared just for us!

+†+

www.fcgchurch.org
PO Box 24283
Philadelphia, PA 19120
info@fcgchurch.org
#2927 0307 21A
VIRTUAL