

# GOD GIVEN RESPONSIBILITIES 61 THINGS GOD WANTS YOU TO KNOW

## God Given Responsibilities

### Part I - God-ward Responsibilities

God-ward Responsibilities: "Jesus said unto him "though shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Matt. 22:37.

I am Responsible –

1. To glorify Him: Phil. 1:20. "So now also Christ shall be magnified in my body; whether it be by life, or by death." The chief end of man is to glorify God as with Paul it should be our hearts desire to bring glory to God our Father. Everything about us should say Jesus Be Magnified!

Glory should be given Jesus by others as we brag on him for what he's done for us. Luke. 18:43

"and immediately he received his sign, and followed him. glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it gave praise unto God."

He receives glory as fruit is produced in our lives. Jn. 15:8

"herein is my father glorified, that ye bear much fruit. He is glorified when we finish the work given us to do. Jn.

17:4 "I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do."

We give him glory relative to our gratitude for his grace. II Cor. 4:15 "for all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many rebound to the glory of God."

Here are some other references. I Cor. 6:20. Give glory because we are bought with a price. I Cor. 10:31 give glory for every act of life. II Tim 4:18 for his preserving and delivering power. I Pet. 4:16 give him glory when people call us names such as Christian.

2. To worship Him - Jn. 4:21-24 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall

neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. How much is God worth to me. How much do I value and appreciate God for who he is notice Jn. 4 here tells us that worship must come from the spirit "the heart" and from truth "his revealed word."

He alone is worthy - Matt. 4:10 "thou shalt worship the Lord thy God. and him only shalt thou serve." We worship because our hearts have been circumcised and have no use for the flesh. Paul said in Phil. 3:3 "for we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Jesus Christ and have no confidence in the flesh." You see Jesus deserves worship because he is God. Luke. 24:52 "and they worshipped him. and returned to Jerusalem with great joy." Here are some other references on this Jn. 9:31; Rev. 7:11. 11:16-17. 14:7. 15:4. 19:4. 19:10.22:9.

3. To Praise Him - Acts 2:46-47. With my lips I tell how great and glorious God is and by my life I show that I really believe God is every thing he said he is.

In church we are to praise him according to our example in Luke 24:53 "and were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God." Heb. 2:12. We should without hesitancy lift our voice to God for his Son Jesus. Praise Him for life and health as the lame man here in Acts 3:8 "and he leaping up stood, and walked and entered with them into the temple, walking and leaping and praising God."

One way to praise is through singing that's what they did in a jail cell in Philippi as seen in Acts 16:25 "and at midnight Paul and Silas prayed; and sang praises unto God and the prisoners heard them." Also Eph. 5:19, I Cor. 14:15. Who is to praise well according to Romans 15:11 "and again, praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people."

Every one without exception is to praise Him. Praise is to be a sacrifice toward our Father as seen in Heb. 13:15. "by him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is. the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." Other references: Peter in I Pet. 2:9 says we are to worship because we are a part of a royal priesthood brought out of darkness.

4. To honor Him (put him first) Paul says in Col. 1:18 it is to place a value on. God honors those who honor him. He is never a loser who puts God first. Honor both Father and Son. Jn. 5:23 "that all men should honor the Son. even as they honor the Father. He that honoreth not the Son honoreth not the Father which hath sent him." All other things should be counted as losses according to Paul in Ph. 3:7-10 "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death". Other references: Col. 1:18. 3:17-22; I Tim. 6:1; I Pet. 2:13, 3:15; Isaiah 5:21. Rev. 3:8.

5. To bless Him - Luke 24:53. From my heart and with my lips I must speak well of God, ever blessing the one who has so blessed me. Paul in Philemon 1:3 said "blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." He is to always be well spoken of or eulogized one needs to read also the following from Luke 2:28. 7:29. 13:35. 24:53. and also here in I Pet.1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

6. To thank Him – According to Paul in I Th. 5:18. We can be thankful for all things? Because my God is working all things together for His glory and our good; true thanksgiving should manifest itself in thanksgiving. Most of all we are to be thankful for the gift of God's abundant grace in the person of Jesus Christ as in II Cor. 9:15 Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

We should thank him because we have victory in our lives II Cor. 2; 14 "now thanks be unto God. which always causeth us to triumph in Christ. We should also thank Him because others care for us as in II Cor. 8:16 "but thanks be to God. which put the same earnest care into the heart of Titus for you." We are to thank Him because of our bounty –II Cor. 9:11"being enriched in everything to all bountifulness. which causeth through us thanks giving to God." Other references: Thank Him Col. 1:12 because we are able to inherit Heaven. Paul in Col. 2:7 says to thank Him because we have a firm foundation. In I Thess. 3:9 thanksgiving should be full of joy.

7. To serve Him - We need to read Acts 20:19 Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: To be a Minister as a believer I am free to serve Christ. What a wonderful slavery! However it must be undivided as Jesus said in Matt. 6:24 "no man can serve two masters for either he will hate the one and love the other ye cannot serve God and man." Luke 16:13.

We must serve him while we have time. Jn. 9:4 "I must work the works of him that sent me while it is day. the night cometh. when no man can work." We must serve him because he is the Lord, Acts 9:6 "and he trembling and astonished said Lord, what wilt thou have me to do" Here are some other references: Acts 13:2 we serve because he has called us to a work. In I Cor. 15:10 we serve because of grace bestowed. Paul told the Corinthians in 2 Cor. 6:4 we are to serve even through suffering and in Eph. 6:5 we serve from the heart not from eye service. See also Ph. 2:16, 22; Col. 3: 22-24. 4:12; I Th. 1:3-9. Heb. 9:14, 12:28. I Pet. 2:16.

8. To love Him - Let's read here I Pet. 1:8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory Before I ever loved Him. He first loved me even when I was dead in sin. I demonstrate my love for him by keeping His commandments. Faith is the root; love is the fruit look at Gal. 5:6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

Love for God is to be ahead of all. Matt. 10:37. He that loveth Father or Mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. In Matt. 22:36-37 Jesus says the proof of our love is obedience. In Jn. 14:21-24 Jesus says there is a reward for those that love him: James 1:12 here James says Blessed is the man that endureth temptation for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. We are to love him even though we have not seen him. I Pet.1:8 "whom having not seen ye have." Other references: John says we are to love Him I Jn. 4:19. because he first loved us.

9. To obey him - Jesus said in Jn. 14:15 "If ye love me, keep my commandments". God is so great that to disobey him is unthinkable. Obedience is the very best way to show that I believe in Jesus as my Saviour. Obedience is love in action. You cannot continually disobey the word of God and call him Lord. Listen to what Jesus says here in Luke 6:46 - and why call ye me. Lord. Lord, and do not the things which I say? We are to keep his commandments as He says in Jn. 14:15 "If ye love me keep my commandments".

Our Obedience to God the Father takes precedence over what man says. Acts 4:19 - whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God. Judge ye. Also the Apostle's words in Acts 5:29 - we ought to obey God rather than men. Who you are; is not as important as who you obey Paul knew this and tried to teach it to the Corinthians in I Cor. 7:19 -circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the

commandments of God. Following are some other references - II Cor. 2:9 - we are to be obedient in all things. Gal. 5:7 - we are to obey the truth. I Jn. 2:3-5 - obeying the word is proof we are his.

10. To please him - Eph. 5:10-11 Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. We should ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face. God is working in me that which is well pleasing in his sight. Present or absent - II Cor. 5:9 says "wherefore we labor, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him". Children and parents are to please him according to Col. 3:20 23. In our handling the word we are to pleasing to Him - I Thess. 2:4. Other references: II Tim. 2:4 because we are soldiers. Heb.11:5-6 should be our testimony.

11. To confess him - Matt. 10:32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. The redeemed of the Lord need to say so. With our heart and with our lips we agree with God that Jesus Christ is Lord and that He is the only Saviour. "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my father which is in heaven." Secret discipleship is practically impossible. True confession comes when we are among the sinful look at Mk. 8:38 "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels". Luke 9:26 - For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the son of man be ashamed. Other references: Rom. 10:8-9 says that true salvation requires confession; read also I Tim. 6:12.

12. To reflect him (shine for him) - II Cor. 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. May the beauty of the Lord

Jesus be seen in my life? The world must not see the ugliness of self and sin as a child of God I bear the family likeness (I Jn. 2:29).

Before the lost - Mt. 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Let your light so shine before men Jesus light must become dominant in our lives. Compare with Jn. 3:30. He must increase but I must decrease. Other references: Acts 4:14; I Cor. 15:49; II Cor.3:18; Eph. 5:1; Ph. 2:15; I Pet. 2:9; I Jn. 2:6.

13. To trust him - II Cor. 5:7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) Faith is the key to the Christian life. We are saved by faith and so we must live by faith. Faith lays hold of the facts in God's word and makes them real in our experience. Trust is not worrying - Mt. 6:25-34, 14:27-31. Trust is standing firm in the storm - Luke 8:24-25 And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm. And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him. Without trust, the Lord cannot work for us also in Luke. 8:5. Fear not believe only and she shall be made whole.

We can trust because God knows all about us. Luke 12:7 - but even the very hairs on your head are all numbered, fear not therefore. Other references: Jn. 6:20. 14:1-27. Rom. 4:20. 21. 14:22-23. 15:13, I Cor. 10:10. II Cor. 1:9, 3:4. 4:13. 5:7. Gal. 2:20. 5:5-6. Eph. 1:15. 3:17. 6:16. Ph. 2:24. 3:3. 4:6. Col. 1:4; 2:5-6. I Thess.1:3-8; 5:8. II Thess. 1:3. I Tim. 1:5-19. 6:11-17. II Tim. 2:22; 3:10. Phil. 5; Heb. 2:13. 3:12. 6:18-19. 10:23-39. Heb. chapter 11.1 Pet. 1:8-21. 3:5. 5:7. I Jn. 5:4.

14. To fear him - Heb. 12:28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: those who fear God need fear nothing else. May I

be terribly afraid of doing something that would displease him? May my conduct even be affected by the consciousness of his person and presence?

Man in his natural state has no fear of God. Rom. 3:18 "there is not fear of God before their eyes".

Holiness requires fear. II Cor. 7:1 - let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit perfecting holiness in the fear of God. Lack of proper fear can result in loss of blessing.

Heb. 4:1 - let us therefore fear, lest a promise being left us of entering into his rest. Following are some other references: Mt. 10:28. Mk. 12:6. Luke 1:50. 12:4-5. 20:13. Acts 9:31; Eph. 5:21. Phil. 2:12-13. Col. 3:22. Heb. 12:28. I Pet. 1:17. 2:17. 3:15. Rev. 14:7. 15:4. 19:5.

15. To follow him - Jn. 8:31-32 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. The demands of displeasing Jesus are great I have decided to follow Jesus and there is no turning back. I will sit at his feet, hear his word, and worship and follow him.

Discipleship has cost: family (Mt. 10:37-39), burden sharing (Mt. 11:28-30), self denial (Mt.16:24-25), sacrifice of all possessions (Luke 9:57-62), a constant feeding on the word (Jn. 8:31-32).

Other references: Mt. 4:19-22. 8:19-22. 9:9. 19:27. Mk. 1:17. 2:19. 8:34-35. 10:28-30. Luke 5:11-28.14:26-33. 17:33.18:22-29. Jn. 1:37. 21:19-22. Acts 9:6. Phil. 3:7-19. Rev. 14:4.

16. To submit to him (surrender) - James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Christ is my Lord and Master; He is over me and I gladly take my place under him in humble submission. "Lord, what would you have me to do" Here are some verses and what they ask us to do in submitting to Jesus  
Rom. 6:13 - yield. Rom. 12:1-2 - transform. Subject yourselves - Rom. 13:1. Other references: Acts 9:6. II Cor. 8:5. Eph. 5:21-22. Heb. 12:5.



17. To be fruitful - Col. 1:10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;. Fruit is the outflow of God's life. May Christ express himself through me. May I bear much and more fruit for his glory? Being fruit bearing requires being part of the vine as we read of in the words of Jesus in Jn. 15:1-16. We are being shaped for this - Eph. 2:10. "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." What is this fruit it is found in Gal. 5:22-25 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

18. To walk in humility - I Pet. 5:5-6 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: The way up is the way down. My Lord went very low so he could raise me to the heights. May I go very low so I can lift up others in the direction of my Saviour?

There is blessing in humility found in Mt. 5:3-5, also Luke 6:20-22 and Luke 14:11 "For whosoever scalteth himself shall be abased and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." I Cor. 4:6-7 Humility keeps us from falling - I Cor. 10:12, "Wherefore let him that thmketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

Gal. 6:3, Eph. 4:1-2. True riches are in humility - I Tim. 6:10-17. "Charge them that are rich in this world that they be not high minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the Living God. Who giveth us richly all things to enjoy." Other references: Mt. 5:3-5, 18:4. Luke 1:48-53, Acts 20:19. Rom. 12:3. I Cor. 1:29-31. Col.3:12, James 4:9-10. I Pet. 3:15, 5:5-6.

19. To be filled with the Spirit - Eph. 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit. The Spirit of God is the power that works in me. I must never hinder or quench his working. He wants to manifest the life of Christ in and through me. The law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. Acts 13:52 says "and the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost".

Evidence of being filled with the Holy Spirit is fruit - Gal. 5:16-25. Other references: Acts 9:17. 31. Rom. 8:4. 15:13. Gal. 3:3, Eph. 4:30, 5:9, 18.1 Th. 5:19.

20. My responsibility with respect to money and possessions - Mt. 6:19-20 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: May I not be possessed by my possessions. The disciple owns nothing, rather he is owned. As a faithful steward may I use my possessions to the glory of God? We should freely help others and seek nothing in return as Jesus taught in Mt. 6:1-4. Our treasures location lets the Lord know where our hearts are - Mt. 6:19-21. No worry over possessions -Mt. 6:28-33. We must be willing to give it away - Mt. 19:21-24. We should not withhold or hold anyone else back from giving - Mt. 26:8-12. Acts 5:1-10. Other references: Mt. 21:12, 13; Mk. 8:36, 10:21-25, 12:41-44, 14:3-8; Luke 3.11-14, 6:20-38, 8:14, 9:58, 10:30-36; Jn. 12:5-8; Acts 8:17-21, 20:33-35; II Cor. 4:18, 6:10, and all of chapters 8 & 9; Ph. 4:11-19; Col. 3:5. I Tim. 3:3-8. 6:5-20. Heb. 10:34-35, 11:26, 13:5-16; James 1:9-11, 2:2-7, 5:1-6; I Pet. 5:2; Jude 11.

21. My responsibility with respect to my tongue - Eph. 4:29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. The tongue controlled by the Spirit of God can be a mighty weapon for good. The tongue controlled by the flesh is a powerful instrument for evil. May

my tongue be used for righteousness unto God a tool to bless and build up?

No swearing - oath taking - Mt.5:33-37. What is in our heart will come out of our mouth - Mt.12:34-37. Our language should be honest and forthright - I Cor. 2:4. Eph. 4:25-29. 5:4. James says the Tongue is small but powerful - James 3:3-12. Other references: Luke 6:45; Jn. 18:25; Acts 5:1-10; Rom. 3:13-14; I Cor.12:3; II Cor. 7:14; Col. 3:8-9, 4:6; 1 Th. 4:11.1 Tim. 2:7, 3:8-11, 5:13; II Tim. 2:14-16, 3:2-3; Tit.1:7, 2:3-9, 3:2; James 1:13-26, 5:12; I Pet. 3:10-15; Rev. 14:5.

22. My responsibility with respect to worldliness - I Jn. 2:15-17 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever. Worldliness is that way of life that leaves God out and seeks to function apart from him. In independence from God the worldly person says, "I'll do what I want (lust of the flesh), I'll have what I want (lust of the eyes) and I'll be what I want (pride of life)." Instead it should be. "May I do what God would have me to do, may I have what God would want me to have, and may I be what God would want me to be". Why because the person who does the will of God abides forever. Jesus was tempted with these same 3 basic ideas - and in them reside all sin.

One needs to place proper emphasis on the things of the world - Mt. 6:19-20. Mk 4:18 - worldliness chokes the life of God out of us. In Luke 21:34 Jesus says worldliness will keep us from desiring the return of the Lord. Other references: Mt. 13:22; Mk. 4:18; Luke 17:32; Rom. 12:1-2; Gal. 1:4; II Tim. 2:4; II Tim. 4:10; Tit. 2:12; James 1:27, 4:4; I Jn. 3:3, 5:21.

## Part II - Man-ward Responsibilities

Mt. 28:39 - and the second is like unto it. thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

1. My responsibility toward others (my brother, my neighbor) - Mt. 22:29. The question is not "who is my neighbor" but rather "who can I be a neighbor to". May the Lord help me to be sensitive to the real needs of those around me?

Jesus in Mt. 7:1-5 says you cannot help a neighbor with a 4x4 in your eye. Being a neighbor requires total forgiveness as Jesus taught in Mt.18:21-35. Being a neighbor will help you obey the law of God as Paul says in Rom. 13:8-10. Being a neighbor requires us to walk carefully - I Cor. 8:7-13, 13:4-7. You will find in the following group of references much more on a Christian's responsibility to others: Mt. 5:22-26. 5:37-42. 7:1-12. 18:21-35. 19:17-19. 20:26-28. 22:39. 23:11. Mark 9:35. 10:19-45, 11:25-26, 12:31-33. Luke 3:14. 6:30-38. 9:48. 10:25-37. 17:3-4. 18:20. 22:26-27. Rom. 12:9-10, 15:1-3; I Cor. 8:9-13. 16:14. II Cor. 8:21. Gal. 5:13-26.6:2-10. Eph. 4:12-28. 4:31-32. 5:2. Col. 3:13-14; I Th.3:12.4:6-11. II Th. 1:3. I Tim. 3:2. Tit. 1:8. Heb. 13:2. James 2:1-11. 4:11. I Pet. 4:15. I Jn. 2:9-11. 3:10-18. 4:7-21. Jude 22-23.

2. Toward all men - Gal. 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. As God is concerned for all men (I Tim. 2:4, Jn. 3:16), so also may I share this Godly love and concern for all who cross my path. Matt. 28:19 here Jesus says we have a responsibility to go to all men everywhere and in every circumstance and give them the Gospel. Paul adds to this in Acts 24:16 - and herein did I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offense toward God and toward all men. WE must fit our lives into their culture so we can reach them I Cor. 9:19-23. While we are reaching out to them we are not to sin or error but to be part of social custom -10:31-33. Some other references: Matt. 5:16; Mk. 16:15; Acts 1:8; Rom. 12:17-18; II Cor. 5:20; Gal.6:10. Ph. 2:15. 4:5. Col. 4:5. I Th. 3:12.4:12-

14.5:15. I Tim. 2:1. 3:7. II Tim. 2:24. Tit. 3:2. Heb.12:14. I Pet. 2:17. III Jn. 12.

3. My responsibility toward those outside of Christ - Col. 4:5-6  
Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man. My fervent desire is to know Christ and to make him known to others. May the beauty of the Lord rest upon me and may the life of the Lord be manifested. Of myself I am nothing, but I have a great Saviour and I'm proud of him! I want others to know about His Worth (who he is). His Work (what He has done), and His Word (what he has said). Mt. 4:19 - follow me and I will make you fishers of men. We need to go fishing. Little children are good fishers (Mk.10:14). We cannot be picky - Luke 5:29-32, 24:47-48. There is a rich harvest according to Jesus in Jn. 4:35-38. Other references: Mt. 5:13-16. 7:6. 9:36-38. 10:16-32. 26:13. 28:18-20. Mk. 1:17. 4:21. 5:19. 6:34. 8:38, 13:8, 14:9. 16:15-20, Luke. 8:39. 9:26. 9:54-56. 12:8. chapter 15, 16:27-31. Jn. 1:40-46. 4:35-38. 17:18. 20:27. Acts 1:8, 4:2-33. 5:20-42. 7:4-35. 9:20-28. 10:42-43, 13:5; Acts 14:3-21, 16:13-32. 17:2-17. 18:4-28. 19:8. Rom. 1:14-16. 9:1-4. 10:1-15. I Cor. 1:17. 7:12-17. 9:16-23.10:27-33. II Cor. 2:12. 4:5-6, 5:18-21. 6:14-17. Gal. 6:10. Eph. 3:8. 6:19-20. Ph. 2:15-16. 4:5. Col. 4:3-6. I Th. 2:2-4. 4:12. I Tim. 2:1-7, 3:7.

4. My responsibility toward widows, the poor, needy, sick. etc.  
May those who are poor and needy know that there is a great God who is rich for their poverty and sufficient for their every need?

Without a desire for praise - Mt. 6:1-4 Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy

right hand doeth: That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly. Do not hoard goods - Luke 3:11. he that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none. We are not to hoard what is offered to the Lord. Jn. 12:4-8. Give readily to the needy - Rom. 12:13-16. The "how to" for widows - I Tim. 5:3-16. Do the deeds not the talk - James 2:15-16. The sick - James 5:13-15. You have it someone needs it give it - I Jn. 3:17-18. read these other references: Mt. 19:21. 25:34-35. 26:9-12. Mk. 14:3-7. Luke 4:18. 7:22. 10:30-36, 14:13-14. Acts 3:2-6; 6:1-6. 11:29-30. 20:35. Rom. 15:26-27. II Cor. 9:1-13. Gal. 2:10. Eph. 4:28. I Th. 5:14. James 1:27.

5. My responsibility toward those... - Eph. 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

We should forgive those

Who persecute us - Matt.5:44 Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

Who wrong us - Rom. 12:21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Who sin against us - Luke 17:3 If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. I have a great high priest who was without sin yet he fully experienced persecution and suffering "without a cause." May he teach me how to love my enemies and forgive the ungodly, remembering that he loved and forgave even me - Rom. 5:6-10; Eph. 4:32.

Rejoice for you are in good company - Mt. 5:10-12. Our reaction - Luke 6:27-28. Rom. 12:17-21.

Our reaction to those who wrong or sin against me - Eph. 4:32 "and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hat forgiven you." Other references: Mt. 5:39. 5:44-48. 6:14-15. 10:16-28. 18:15-17. Mk. 11:25-26. Luke 6:22-37, 12:4,14:27, 17:3-4; Jn. 16:1-7; Acts 4:21-29, 5:26-42, 7:58-60, 13:51-52, 16:19-34,

18:6, 20:22-24. Rom. 12:14-21. 15:30-31. 1 Cor. 4:9-13.  
Chapter 5, 6:1-8. II Cor 2:7-8; II Th.1:4-9; 3:1-2. II Tim.  
3:10-12.

6. My responsibility toward my marriage partner - Mt. 19:5-6  
And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and  
mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall  
be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one  
flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not  
man put asunder. God has given each person in a marriage a  
role to follow that is to be a picture of his relationship to us.

1. Responsibilities of husbands: Eph. 5:25 Husbands, love  
your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave  
himself for it". As I observe the godly husband I am seeing a  
picture of Christ's sacrificial love for his church. Husbands  
have a responsibility to provide all aspects of love to his wife -  
I Cor. 7:3-5 Let the husband render unto the wife due  
benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband.  
The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband:  
and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own  
body, but the wife. Defraud ye not one the other, except it  
be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to  
fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan  
tempt you not for your incontinency. Husbands are to be  
duly submissive to Christ - I Cor.11:3-12. Husbands are to be  
the head of the house as Christ is the head of the church -  
Eph. 5:23-29. He is to have no bitterness according to Paul in  
Col. 3:19. Other references: I Tim. 5:8; all of I Cor.7.

Next let's examine the:

2. Responsibility of wives: now as I observe the godly wife. I am  
seeing a picture of how I should submit and respond to the  
Lord Jesus Christ. Wives are to be submissive as the church is  
to submit to Christ as outlined by Paul in Ephesians 5:22-24  
Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto  
the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as  
Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of  
the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ,  
so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

Also in I Cor.11:3-16. Women should dress with modesty and a separated attitude.

She should respect God's order as Paul states in I Tim. 2:9-15. Other references: Mk.10:12; Rom.7:1-3; I Cor.7:3-5, 7:10-40, 14:34-35; Col. 3:18; I Tim. 3:11, 5:9-14; II Tim.1:5; Tit. 3:3-5; I Pet. 3:1-6.

3. Responsibilities of those who are unmarried: I Cor. 7:32-34

But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife. There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband. The unmarried person is to be concerned about the things of the Lord, enjoying him. Pleasing him, giving him first place. God can take care of my needs for companionship in his way and in his time as for now. He is the only intimate companion I need. The single person is to allow no room for the flesh as Paul states in Rom. 13:13-14 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

The body is God's temple look at Paul's words in I Cor. 6:18-20 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore. If you can remain single, it is better where serving the Lord is concerned as you will have no obligations to hold you back as Paul says in I Cor. 7:8-9 I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I. But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn.



We should never become unequally yoked - II Cor. 6:14-17. We should know how to control ourselves - I Thess. 4:3-5. Other references: Matt. 19:10-12; I Cor 7:25-37; Eph. 5:3; Col. 3:5; I Tim. 5:14; II Tim. 2:22.

7. My responsibility toward children - Eph. 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. What a privilege to bring little ones to the Saviour and to the truth of God's word. May I not hinder them in any way?

We are to open the way - Matt. 19:14 But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven. Mk. 10:19; Luke 11:13. We are not to provoke children - Col. 3:21 Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged. Eph. 6:4.

Other references: II Cor. 12:14; 1 Tim. 3:4-12; 5:8 -10 Tit.1:6; 2:4.

8. My responsibility toward His (Christ's) local church - Heb. 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. It is a privilege and joy to the part of God's program for this age which centers in the local assembly of believers. May I never despise or forsake God's assembly in my locality. May I be fully committed to my Lord and thus to His church. Our mindset toward the Lord - Acts 4:31-32 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

To pray for others - Acts 12:5-12. Our interrelationships - Rom. 12:4-8; we are to be of the same mind - I Cor. 1:10. We are not to forsake coming together in fellowship - Heb. 10:25. Finally - I Pet. 3:8-12. Other references: Jn. 2:16; Acts 2:42, 10:33,

11:26, 14:27, 20:7; Rom. 15:5-6; I Cor. 3:16-17, 10:32, 11:2-34, 12:22-31; Eph. 4:3-16; Col. 3:15; I Tim. 3:15.]; I Pet. ] 4:10-11; I Jn. 2:19.

#### 9. The responsibility of the local church –

The local assembly of believers is to function according to the pattern and blueprint found in the New Testament epistles. As the body of believers is healthy, the life of Christ will be manifested and God will be glorified.

Local church marks - Acts 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. The Local church is to be maintained in a state of decency and order I Cor. 14:40 Let all things be done decently and in order. We are God's instrument of grace - Eph. 3:10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, Church offices and purpose are laid out by Paul in Eph. 4:11-16.

Who is the head of the church, Christ is of course as we see in Col.1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. What part are you filling in the local church you are a part of - 1 Pet. 2:5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Other references: I Cor. 5, 6:1-8, 14:23-26; Eph. 5:24; Col. 2:5; I Th. 1:7-8; 1 Tim. 3:15, 5:19-21; Jude 3; Revelation's chapter's 2 & 3.

#### 10. My responsibility toward false teaching and false teachers

- I Jn. 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.. False doctrine is the poison of the soul. It must ever be exposed by the light of God's truth. It must never be tolerated. Truth cannot be perpetuated through compromise and compromise cannot be avoided without separation. False prophets hide in the light – Jesus said in Matt. 7:15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are

ravens wolves. False teachers are blind - Matt. 15:13-14  
But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch. Last days will see many false teachers come along and we are seeing that more and more every day- Matt. 24:4-26. They wear religious clothes - Luke 20:46-47 Beware of the scribes, which desire to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at feasts; Which devour widows' houses, and for a show make long prayers: the same shall receive greater damnation. What they teach is seen in - Rom. 16:17-18 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple. We are to stay away from them - II Cor. 6:14-17 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. We are to bring them out of our congregations- II Tim. 2:17-26 and 3:5-9. Here are some other references on false teachers and prophets: Mt.16:6-12; Mk. 8:15, 12:38-40, 13:5-23; Luke 6:39, 12:1, 21:8; Jn. 10:8-10. Acts 20:28-31; Gal. 1:6-9, 2:4-5; Eph. 5:6-11; Ph. 3:2-19; Col.2:4-19; I Th. 5:21. II Th.1:2-3; I Tim.1:3-20, 4:1-16, 6:3-5; II Tim. 4:14-15; Tit. 1:9-16, 3:10-11; Heb. 13:9; II Pet. Chapter 2, 3:16-17; I Jn. 3:7, 4:1-5; Jude 3:21.

11. My responsibility to my pastor and church leaders - I Th. 5:12-13 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves. Am I thankful for the gifted men God has given to me? Look at the words of Paul in Eph. 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; Am I submitting to my leaders, setting a high value on them because of the work Christ has given them to do? Do I cause them grief or joy- Heb. 13:17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you. .Other references: Matt. 10:10 Nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat. Also verses 40-42; Acts 6:1-4, 15:40, 21:17; Rom. 16:4-9; I Cor. 4:16, 9:6-14, 11:1, 16:15-16; II Cor. 6:11-13; Gal. 6:6; Ph. 4:9-19; Col. 4:3-4; I Th. 4:1-3, 5:12-25; II Th. 2:15, 3:1-14; I Tim. 5:17-19; Heb. 13:7-22; James 5:18.

#### DID YOU KNOW THAT?

23% of the world knows nothing about Christianity and the Gospel?

90% of all evangelism is directed not at non-Christians, but at Christians?

91% of all foreign, cross-cultural missionaries are targeting Christian populations?

95% of all Christian activity benefits only the Christian world?

97% of all Christians are out of meaningful contact with non-Christians?'

99% of all Christian discussion and writing addresses only Christian interests?

99% of the Christians' world income is spent on itself alone?

Source: Regent Bible College study 1994

We could probably add that 99% of Christian books and videos are designed primarily for a Christian readership.

And on the assumption that there are perhaps several hundred thousand English-language Christian web-sites, it would be very hard to find even 1% of them which are written primarily for non-Christians or are designed to be easily accessible and welcoming to them as well as Christians.

Without arguing about the precise Figures, it does seem we have got our balance terribly, terribly wrong.

Yes, of course we should be feeding and encouraging Christians too - and also teaching them to fulfill the last commandment of Jesus: to go and preach the news of the kingdom.

"These you ought to have done without leaving the others undone." (Luke 11.42) Somehow, it's just not happening.