



Dos and Don'ts from God...#6

By Gerald Cumby

God wants His people to enjoy life by keeping the proper spiritual balance with our GOD ANOINTED "Dos and Don'ts" attitude.

GOOD THOUGHTS:

"Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving."

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take but by the moments that take our breath away."

"You only live once, but if you do it right ...Once is enough!"

Here are some specific examples of Dos and Don'ts in the bible as to how to live a Christ-like life as we live this life on planet earth :

Note: You will see why it is important to balance your Christian Life by evaluating the Dos and Don'ts God places in front of us.

- **Do...Go to Church Regularly**

*Hebrews 10 gives us some advice, "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, **not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together**, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."*

Clearly, we need to get together with other Christians so that we can encourage each other and stir each other **to do good things**.

- **Do...Surround Yourself with Other Christians**

The idea that "we become like the people we hang around with" is actually quite true. 1 Corinthians 15:33 puts it like this: "**Do not be deceived: 'Evil company corrupts good habits.'**"

It's important to surround ourselves with people who will encourage us to honor God with our actions and words.

- **Do...Read the Bible and Pray**

Colossians urges, "**[DO]** Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving." And 1 Thessalonians says, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

Reading the Bible helps us to know who God is and how He operates.

- **Don't...Misalign Your Priorities**

As Christians, we acknowledge Jesus as King. Jesus said, "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

God won't share first place with another; He wants our devotion and loyalty, just like spouses want in a marriage relationship.

- **Do...Watch Your Speech**

The Bible has much to say about our words and the power of the tongue. *"Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."* And *"neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks."*

Both verses in Ephesians are clear: How we talk matters to God.

- **Do...Live a Quality, Stable, Godly Lifestyle**

Lifestyle can encompass many things. Paul gave young Timothy this advice: *"But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness."*

Paul was encouraging Timothy to avoid controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, and evil suspicions, and to be careful of corrupt people.

Paul also advises believers to *"flee sexual immorality,"* and Ephesians instructs us to be *"filled with the Spirit"* rather than *"drunk with wine."* Christians have a high standard of morality to aspire to.

- **Do...Please God in Your Thoughts and Actions**

Ephesians encourages us to "be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us." Most children really want to please their father and mother. When we come to really know God and His character, we want to please Him, too. It's not about following rules; it's about relationship and love.

So rather than thinking of Christianity as being a religion of rules of dos and don'ts, think of it as wanting to please our Heavenly Father by doing the things that He wants us to do.

The more we get to know Him, the more He shows us how to live a full and abundant life.

We have to know that any rule, command, or principle of conduct from God to DO or to NOT DO something always has God's heart in them and are meant for our good. They are always to enhance our relationship with Him and others.

Like the commands in the Garden to Adam and Eve, “Freely eat,” and “Do not eat,” God had Adam and Eve’s best interest in mind. Keep in mind it was Adam and Eve’s failure to keep a “DON’T” command that led to the enslavement of the human race to sin, spiritual death, Satan, and the curse.

We can trust the One Who not only loves us more than any human being could but Who is “Love personified” (1 John 4:8).

What to Do as a Spiritual Leader at Home, Church, and Work...!

- ***Emphasize the importance of being prepared through prayer.***
 - *Encourage the congregants to pray every morning for God to bring individuals their way who need God's and ultimately your help in some way.*
 - *Encourage the congregants to pray every morning for God to help them quickly recognize a great opportunity.*
- ***Suggest that they may not see special opportunities every day, but the more we pray, the more opportunities we will have to be a blessing.***
 - *It is important to know that the Holy Spirit will help us recognize the opportunities to be a blessing even when we might not be seeing the opportunity in the flesh.*
Thank God for the Holy Spirit residing in you.
- ***Build anticipation and excitement about what God will do through participation.***
- ***Regularly give the people an opportunity to tell what has happened when we are open to the opportunities to be blessed.***
- ***Be sure to point out that not every opportunity to be "a blessing" is necessarily or always going to be super spectacular...but, every "Being a Blessing" incident is important and needs to be rejoiced!***

NOTE: The Bible measures blessedness differently from how people of the world measure it:

"Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him" (James 1:12).

- ***To those who rest in God, He grants an inner state of joy that is unaffected by external trials.***

- **What is this promised "crown of life?"**

It is the never-ending, victorious life in the world to come, where all trials will be ended. The marvelous blessings we experience now are minor compared to the benefits God has stored up for us in His eternal kingdom.

(1 Corinthians 2:9) "As it is written: "What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived" – the things God has prepared for those who love him—"

We Are Blessed to Be a Blessing!

Blessed