

Maintain a Positive Attitude in the Midst of Worldly People

*This world is not my home I'm just a passing through
My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue
The angels beckon me from heaven's open door
And I can't feel at home in this world anymore
Chorus: Oh lord you know I have no friend like you
If heaven's not my home then lord what will I do
The angels beckon me from heaven's open door
And I can't feel at home in this world anymore*

*I have a loving mother just over in gloryland
And I don't expect to stop until I shake her hand
She's waiting now for me in heaven's open door
And I can't feel at home in this world anymore
Chorus:*

*Just over in gloryland We'll live eternally
The saints on every hand are shouting victory
Their songs of sweetest praise
Drift back from heaven's shore
And I can't feel at home In this world anymore
Chorus:*

How many of you want to take the next trip to heaven...people die every snap of the finger...Any takers?

You are tired of this world and the people in it...You just want to be with Jesus!

What kind of attitude should we Christians have as we live in a world of madness, sadness, profanity, and problems?

- ✓ *“Develop an attitude of gratitude, and give thanks for everything that happens to you, knowing that every step forward is a step toward achieving something bigger and better than your current situation.” Brian Tracy*
- ✓ *“People may hear your words, but they feel your attitude.” John C. Maxwell*
- ✓ *“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.” Winston Churchill*
- ✓ *“Weakness of attitude becomes weakness of character.” Albert Einstein*

- ✓ *“We cannot change our past. We can not change the fact that people act in a certain way. We can not change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude.” Charles R. Swindoll*
- ✓ *“A Christ-like attitude is actually a beatitude (a state of utmost bliss); no anxiety, not worrying about where we are; a treasured sense of knowing and understanding that God is on our side at all times.” Gerald Cumby*

*We are in a midst of a worldly, arrogant, unwise, selfish people!
We see them at the grocery store...at ball games...at work...on the road...even at church!*

Takers...Have a lot of wants; but, not willing to earn or give something in return.

They enjoy receiving and deceiving!

What is our attitude toward the world and the takers who live off of others' gifts and treasures?

Today's world seems to function with a mixture of self-absorption, self-promotion, and downright selfishness, with a sprinkling of compassion and generosity. It should be the other way around, unfortunately, but we can all do our part to make important changes.

Here are 7 ways to be selfless in a selfish world:

- 1. Listen more...Learn to listen; Listen to learn!**
- 2. Practice loving kindness**
- 3. Perform random acts of kindness**
- 4. Give some of your offerings to missions and those less fortunate in your world**
- 5. Volunteer at a hospitals, foster care for children, homeless shelters...**

6. Practice patience...*If you haven't noticed, we live in a very impatient world; we can get anything we want with the click of a button or the swipe of our finger. We live in an age of instant gratification, which furthers the selfishness we see today. Many people in our world have an entitled mindset, generally believing that they should come first – always. Be patient on the road, at the place we eat, and even at church.*

7. Treat others how you want to be treated...*This variation of the Golden Rule still applies today. One of the best ways to increase the selflessness in today's world is to simply*

treat others with kindness, just like we would want from others. If we could just do that one thing, we would see huge transformation in the world we live in.

Philippians 4:8-9, Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

“The Creator God did not need you and me or any of mankind to make Him complete or because He was lonely or any thing like that but chose to create us and allow us to live freely in our thoughts and mind. I think this characteristic of God shows how blessed we are and directly should make our attitude towards Him be positive and always wanting to please Him.”

A positive attitude contributes to success in life more than anything else, according to a Stanford Research Institute study that shows a full 87.5 percent of people’s success can be traced to their positive attitudes, while just 12.5 percent of their success comes from their aptitude, knowledge, or skills.

What can you do if your mind is weighed down by negative attitudes that limit your success?

You can change your attitudes, with God’s help.

Here’s how:

1. Understand the Power of attitude.

If you allow negative attitudes (such as anxiety, envy, anger, bitterness, or pride) to grab hold of your mind, those attitudes will lead you to make negative decisions that will affect your life in negative ways. If you choose to develop and maintain positive attitudes, your life will become positive as a result. Ask God to help you each day, and study Jesus’ life, since He is the ultimate example of how to live in a fallen world with positive attitudes.

- 2. Respond rather than React to Unexpected Change.** Change will sometimes surprise you, and when that change is negative you may be drawn into a crisis. Whenever that happens, avoid reacting negatively and instead deliberately decide to respond positively. Keep in mind that you can’t control situations or people, but you can choose how you’ll respond to them. Whenever it’s possible for you to change troubling circumstances or relationships, make the effort to do so. Whenever you can’t change them, ask God to give you the peace you need to deal with them.

3. **Be Accountable for Your Life.** Let go of a victim's attitude, since blaming others for what's happened to you (from divorce to a job loss) won't help make your life better. Avoid self-pity and excuses for not changing your life. Realize that no matter what has happened to you in the past, you *do* have the power to change, with God's help. Focus on God's promises to give you the strength you need to grow and move into a better future, and rely on that strength every day. Instead of looking inward, look outward to other people in need and obey God's call to help them; in the process, you'll start to feel better about your own life. Take responsibility for moving forward in the ways God leads you to move forward, and you'll see your life becoming more positive.
4. **Examine Your Soul.** Ask God to help you take an honest look inside your soul to identify what specific types of negative attitudes are lurking inside, such as: pride, fear, anger, sadness, jealousy, doubt, resentment, bitterness, and low self-esteem. Then confess each of the negative attitudes to God and repent of them, inviting God to transform you from the inside out. Going forward, each time you become aware of an unhealthy, negative thought in your mind, give it to God in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to renew your mind so you can think the way He wants you to think – which will help you develop positive attitudes to fill your soul regularly.
5. **Forgive Yourself and Others.** Accept the forgiveness that God offers you for your sins, and be faithful to God's call to forgive others who have sinned against you. Doing so will release the poison of bitterness from your soul, which will flush out negative attitudes and make room for positive attitudes to take their place. In the process, your stress levels will decrease and the amount of peace you experience will increase.
6. **Prepare for Obstacles.** It's inevitable in this fallen world that you'll face difficult circumstances in the future that can lead you to give into negativity if you don't prepare for them now. So invest time in practices that will help you develop new habits of positive thinking that will solidify positive attitudes in your life. When fear and discouragement cloud your thinking, seek wisdom from prayer, reading the [Bible](#), and talking with godly people you trust. Pray regularly for God to fulfill His unique purposes in your life, and expect big results, with faith in God's sovereign power.
7. **Learn to Receive and Give Love.** The more you can receive God's love and give it to other people, the more positive your perspective on life will become. So make your relationship with God your top priority, and devote lots of time and energy to prayer and other spiritual disciplines that will help you grow closer to Him.
8. **Take Charge of Your Thoughts.** Ask God to help you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, and practice thinking about what's true, lovely and honorable until doing so becomes a habit. Read the Bible regularly to remind yourself of how blessed you are as someone who is accepted, secure, and significant thanks to your relationship with Jesus.
9. **Transform from the Inside Out.** Release control of every part of your life – from your relationships to your work – to God, trusting Him to guide you to what's best in all of your decisions. As you abandon a self-centered life for a God-centered life, you'll find that you'll be following God's guidance because you *want* to, not because you *have* to do so. Your sense of hope will grow in the process, which will nurture positive attitudes in your life.

10. **Make a Positive Difference in God's Kingdom.** Pray that God will make you a vessel for His love to flow through into the lives of other people. Every day, make the most of the opportunities God gives you to inspire other people to develop positive attitudes, by loving and serving them through both what you say and what you do.

God wants us to live life to the fullest...With a Giving Living Attitude!

When you do something...Do it with a "Spirit of Excellence." This keeps the Holy Spirit living in us to not be grieved with our attitudes.

What a Friend we have in Jesus! Therefore, be content, be consistent, and be contagious with your positive and faithful living.

