

NOW WORD Covenant Church
“How to be a God-Pleaser”
Sunday, September 15, 2019

Teacher: Elder Derrick Varner

Scripture: Philippians 2:13. For God is working in you, giving you the **desire** and the power to do what **pleases** him. (NLT)

Objective: Today, we want to explore and then rehearse practical ways of how we can make wise choices that will result in God being delighted with our lifestyle and, ultimately, bring Him glory.

Working (energy) - to work, energetic; to be active to produce effect (*results or evidence*); God wants to make His presence known

--Relational -- Come in agreement; acted on out of love

--Submittal -- Surrender; should not be forced

--Transformational -- Become new; works us from the inside out

Ref: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Galatians 6:15. It doesn't matter whether we have been circumcised or not. What counts is whether we have been **transformed** into a new creation. (NLT)

Colossians 3:10. Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you *learn* to know your Creator and *become* like him. (NLT)

Points to Message:

1. Know that you are actually _____ by God.

1 John 4:10. This is real love – not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

Love is demonstrated – By sending His only

Love is for our benefit – We gain eternal life by *faith* in Christ

Love is sacrificial – A penalty had to be paid

Love is relational – Not Legalist or rules

Love is not a passive suggestion, but a _____.

John 13:34. A new commandment I give you: that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. (NKJV)

“Love is an effective form of evangelism.”

2. We must stop (*un-busy ourselves*), be attentive, and _____ to God.

Harvard Business Review, “less than 2% of the population had formal education on how to listen.”

John 10:27. My sheep **listen** to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. (NLT)

Listen — Beyond just perceiving sound; concentrate; then do

Know — Spend time

Follow — Become a disciple; fall in line; don’t talk back

John 5:24a. “I tell you the truth, those who **listen** to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. (NLT)

Now Word--*When we don’t listen, we have a tendency not to obey and get upset with the consequences.*

3. We should desire to honor God with our _____.

1 Corinthians 11:1. And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ. (NLT) Ref: Luke 6:36; Ephesians 4:32

My life is not my own.

John 5:30a. I can’t do a solitary thing on my own: I listen, then I decide.

You can trust my decision because I’m not out to get my own way but only carry out orders. (MSG)

“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.” ~*John Wesley*

TAKEAWAY: We need to know that you are really _____ by God, take a moment to stop (*un-busy ourselves*), be open, attentive, and _____ to God, and we desire to honor God with our _____.