

Remember Who You Are

John 15:18-25

18 "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. 19 If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. 20 Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also.

Jesus is telling us that there is a very noticeable and obvious difference between those who do not follow him (belonging to the world) and those whom he has chosen or called to be his followers.

But Jesus did not call us to isolate ourselves from the rest of the world – He prayed to his heavenly Father:

“Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.”
—John 17:17-18

The Challenge – To Avoid Becoming So Earthly Minded That You Are Of No Heavenly Good

You need to remember who you are. You belong to Christ and should and live as a witness to the world that there is a difference when Jesus is Lord of your life. There are many distinguishable characteristics between the one who is following Christ and the one who is unsaved, or the one who claims to belong to Christ, but is living as those of the world live. The difference between the you and the world can be seen in:

- **What You Say:**

a. You should say what you believe:

“That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” —Romans 10:9-10

b. Those who belong to Christ do not speak unkindly of others or gossip about the problems, faults of others.

“For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.”
—Matthew 12:34-35

c. We confess our faults to one another:

“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.” —James 5:16

d. We confess our sins to God. We don't try to cover up or justify our sins:

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”
—1 John 1:9

- **What You Do With God's Word**

Many people hear the word of God but fail to put it into practice. **Matthew 7:24-27**

Some examples of the words of Jesus that we need to put into practice: Repentance, Forgiveness, Giving, Discipleship, Honesty, Obedience, Love, Faith, Serving, Mercy - Caring for the “least of these my brethren”.

- **How You Think – There should be a Difference in Your Thought Life**

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will. —Romans 12:2

- **Where You Spend Your Time - Avoid the Wrong Crowd or the Wrong Friends:**

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God--I say this to your shame. —1 Corinthians 15:33-34

Those who belong to Christ abide or stay near to Christ – those who are of the world do not:

Abide in Me, and I in you. —John 15:4-7

Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked. —Psalm 84:10

- **Whom You Seek To Please**

"Obviously, I'm not trying to be a people pleaser! No, I am trying to please God. If I were still trying to please people, I would not be Christ's servant !" —Galatians 1:10-24

- **Where You Are Going – Remember Where Your True Home Is Located**

"For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself." —Philippians 3:20-21

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also." —John 14:1-3

- **What You Value – Our values and priorities should be different than the World's**

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. —Matthew 6:19-24

- **Remember Who You Are - Your Identity Is Found In Christ**

"If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory." —Colossians 3:1-4

