

CHRISTIAN FOUNDATIONS

LESSON 14

DOING GOOD WORKS

Many people believe they can get to heaven by doing good works. Read Ephesians 2:8,9.

What does it tell us about good works?

Some Christians believe that they only need to trust Christ as Saviour. They think they don't need to do anything more. What does Philippians 2:12,13 tell us? These verses do not tell us that we are saved by works. They do not tell us to be afraid of God. They tell us to work for God because we are saved already. God works in us to will and do what pleases Him.

Some say, "It is by believing and doing good works that we are saved." No, this is not true. We are saved only by trusting Christ as our Saviour.

What is the only way we can be saved? John 14:6

When we see and understand how much God loves us, we will want to show our love to Him by obeying Him.

How are we saved? Ephesians 2:8,9

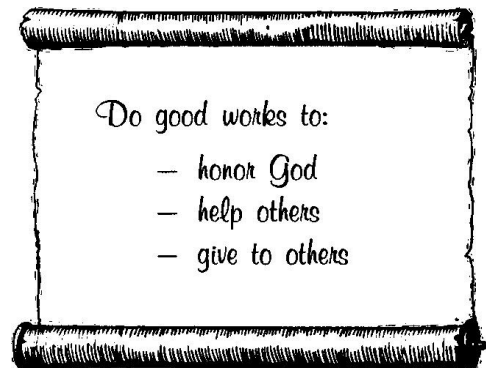


1. REASONS FOR GOOD WORKS.

We are to do good works to honor God, to help others and to give to others.

A. Honor God.

If we really love God we will want to honor Him. How can we honor God? Matthew 5:16



Some people speak against us. What should good works make them do? 1 Peter 2:12

Why are we to do good works?

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- to help others and
- to give to others.

B. Help others.

How should we treat other Christians? Hebrews 10:24

To whom should we do good? Galatians 6:10

Read Acts 9:36-42. In what way did Dorcas help others?

In what way were the churches in Galatia and Corinth going to help the church in Jerusalem? 1 Corinthians 16:1-3

C. Give to others.

Why should Christians learn to work hard? Titus 3:14

What is another reason Christians should work? Ephesians 4:28

What are we told to do in Romans 12:13?

Why are we to do good works?

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2. KINDS OF GOOD WORKS.

The Bible shows us many kinds of good works. Name the good work or works.

Acts 9:36-39

Philippians 4:15-18

2 Corinthians 7:6,7

Luke 10:30-37

Romans 12:13

3. THE WAY TO DO GOOD WORKS.

We are to do good works 1) for God's honor, 2) with the help of God, 3) by following Christ's example, and 4) all the time.

A. For God's honor.

When we do good works we should do them in a way that God will be honored, Matthew 5:16. 1 Corinthians 10:31 tells us that we should do everything to

God has made a plan for our life. We are to do the work He has planned for us, Ephesians 2:10.

There is a song that goes something like this, "What you do speaks so loud that I cannot hear what you say."

People will often remember what we do much longer than they will remember what we say. Some people are not interested in God. Often they are made to think about God by the life of a Christian.

Did Paul live what he preached? 1 Corinthians 11:1

How are we to live among those who do not believe in God? 1 Peter 2:12,15

When we do good works for Jesus, we should give thanks to God, Colossians 3:17.

B. With the help of God.

We belong to Christ. Because we belong to Christ we can do good works. Christ lives in us. He gives us the strength to do good works.

Read Philippians 2:13. Who is working in us?

Why is He working in us?

How long will He work in us? Philippians 1:6

Can we do God's work in our own strength? John 15:5

Who helps us do God's work? Matthew 28:18-20

When we try to do good works in our own strength, we do not please God, Matthew 5:16. We must always ask God for guidance. We also must ask God for strength and wisdom to do good works.

How should we do good works?

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- by following Christ's example
- all the time.

C. By following Christ's example.

Christ showed us how to live, John 13:15.

What did Jesus do when He lived on this earth? Acts 10:38

D. All the time.

God wants us to do many good works. He gives us many chances to do good works.

How are the rich to do their good works? 1 Timothy 6:17,18

The rich should not be proud, but do many good works. We also should watch to see where we can do good.

Why should we not get tired of doing good? Galatians 6:9-10

Is it a sin for a Christian not to do good works? James 4:17 Tell why.

How should we do good works?

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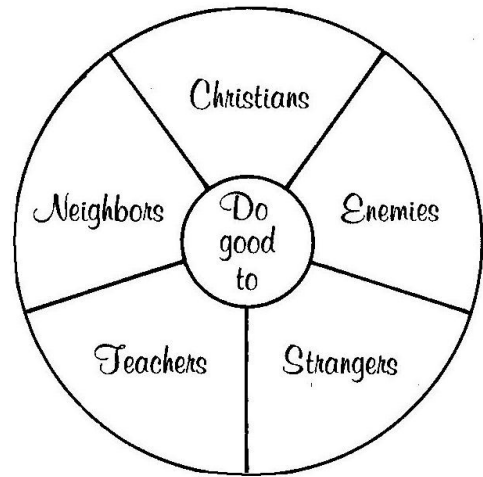
4. TO WHOM WE SHOULD DO GOOD WORKS.

We should do good works to Christians, neighbors, teachers, strangers, and enemies.

A. We should do good works to Christians.

How should Christians treat each other? Hebrews 10:24

Galatians 6:10 also tells us that we should do good to Christians. Read 2 John verses 5 and 6.



B. We should do good works to neighbors.

In Proverbs 3:27-29, we are told to do good to those who deserve it. When are we to help them?

Who is our neighbor? Luke 10:25-37

To whom should we do good works?

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- teachers
- strangers
- enemies

C. We should do good works to teachers.

Who should provide for those that preach or teach God's Word? Galatians 6:6; 1 Corinthians 9:14

D. We should do good works to strangers.

Why are we to be kind to strangers? Hebrews 13:2

Read Genesis 18:1-19.

E. We should do good works to enemies.

It may seem strange, but Christ asks us to do good to our

Matthew 5:44.

Why are we to do good to them? Romans 12:20,21

Actually, we are to do good to all who need help.

To whom should we do good works?

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5. RESULTS OF GOOD WORKS.

When we do good works we please God, make friends and receive a reward and a blessing.

A. When we do good works we please God.

What pleases God? Read Hebrews 13:16

B. When we do good works we make friends.

How will those who hate us feel if we do good to them?
Romans 12:20

Read Acts 9:36-44. Did Dorcas get many friends because of her good works?



C. When we do good works we receive a reward and a blessing.

What does God do for those who trust Him and do good? Psalm 37:3

What will God give us for doing good? Luke 6:35

What are the results of good works?

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MEMORY VERSE

Memorize: Titus 3:8.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

1. How are we saved? Ephesians 2:8,9

2. Why are we to do good works?

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3. Name two good works you can do.

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4. How should we do good works?

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5. To whom should we do good works?

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6. What are the results of good works?

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WORDS TO LEARN

1. actually - really, truly.