

Do the Opposite

In the Bible we find many practices that are completely opposite of what world teaches us. But by practicing instructions given by God, we have a successful and God pleasing life. ***“For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know Him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.”*** 1st Corinthians 1:21

Let us see what opposite practices we must practice as believers.

OPPOSITE of HATE: *“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,”* Matthew 5:43,44

OPPOSITE REACTION: *“I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.”* Matthew 5:39, In the past we have reacted same way as other have dealt with us, but from now on do the opposite as Jesus teaches

OPPOSITE of REVENGE: *Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”* Luke 23:34. This is not only for Jesus to do, but He is teaching us to practice the same in Matthew 5:14, 15. ***“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”***

OPPOSITE of CURSE: *“Bless those who curse you.”* Matthew 5:44

OPPOSITE of PERSECUTION: *“Pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,”* Matthew 5:44

OPPOSITE to SINNERS: *“While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”* Romans 5:8

OPPOSITE of SEPARATION: *“When we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son.”* Romans 5:10. Jesus died to reconcile us with God. What initiatives are we taking to bring reconciliation in many broken relationships in our owl lives and in family and in Church?

OPPOSITE our DECISION: Jesus prayed, saying, *“O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.”* Matthew 26:39. Many times we don’t even seek God’s will and keep on doing what seem right in our own sight and suffer many failures and disappointments. Start seeking His will and enjoy a victorious life.

DO THE OPPOSITE WHEN FACING FAILERS IN LIFE BY DOING THINGS YOUR WAY: *“Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your Word I will let down the net.”* And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish. Luke 5:5, 6. By practicing according to **HIS WORD**, we have guaranteed success all the time.

OPPOSITE of AVOIDING: *“If you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others?”* Matthew 5:47. Many Christians avoid greeting their own relatives and Church people. **Do you?**

OPPOSITE of SELFISHNESS: *“Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”* Philippians 2:3, 4

OPPOSITE FLESHLY LIFE: *“For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.”* Romans 8:13 Many times our flesh advises us to avoid going to the Bible study or Church meetings by giving us various worldly excuses. Please overcome these weaknesses with prayer and go, don't let your flesh win. *“For whatever is born of God overcomes the world..”* 1 John 5:4

WHEN OPPOSITE OCCURS: *“On the day that the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, the opposite occurred, in that the Jews themselves overpowered those who hated them.”* Esther 9:1

IN CONCLUSION: If you are not practicing OPPOSITE as God has asked you to do, start now.

God Bless You

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