

# SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

WHAT IS CHRISTIAN LIVING?

International Sunday School Lesson for October 1, 1950

Memory Selection: "Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ."—Philippians 1: 27.

Lesson Texts: Matthew 5: 13-16, 20; Philippians 1: 27-30; I Thessalonians 5: 15-23; James 1: 22, 26, 27.

With this lesson we begin a new series, "Growing in Christian Living." Our initial lesson is a sort of introduction to the entire series, attempting to answer the question, "What is Christian Living?"

The scriptural background is based on Jesus' teachings, a part of his Sermon on the Mount, on Paul's teachings in his letters to the believers at Philippi and at Thessalonica, and the practical teachings of James, the brother of our Lord.

We might open our discussion with the obvious statement that a definition of Christian living presupposes that the person to be advised is already a believer in Christ. There could be no Christian living without first acceptance of Christ. Any study or definition of Christian living therefore, immediately goes back to a study of Christ himself and his manner of life while he was here in the world.

In the first part of the Sermon on the Mount—in the Beatitudes—Jesus told his followers what the Christian traits should be. Then he turns to their influence. Using symbols which his listeners could easily understand, he compares his followers to salt and light.

Salt, although a very plentiful material in that part of the world, was and is a very necessary element. Jesus was comparing salt to the unconscious influence of Christians. As salt works silently and unseen to save food from spoiling and to make it more palatable to the taste, so should the Christian's influence silently work to make the home, church and community a better place in which to live.

Light represents the Christian's visible influence. The life of Christians should be such that everyone who comes into contact with him or her will be able to see "Christ living in us," as Paul once declared. Both salt and light work silently and so should the influence of people who love Jesus. Jesus taught partly by what he said, much more by what he did but most of all by what he was, the sinless Son of God.

Paul outlines the Christian philosophy of religion in his letter to the Philippians. While he says much the same things as Jesus did, he does not say them quite so simply. Paul urged the believers at Philippi to live as citizens worthy of the heavenly kingdom, which to him, meant doing the will of God in the church as it is done in heaven. He gave them the comfort of the assurance that the Living Christ lived with them every day.

In his letter to the believers at Thessalonica, Paul was using a different method as he was confronted with a different situation. The church folk there had accepted his doctrines and welcomed Christ's promises but were giving little heed to Christian responsibilities and duties. Therefore, it was necessary for Paul to go into detail as to what they should do as Christians. He tells them to never try to get even with one who wrongs them: to "pray without ceasing;" to "prove all things;" and "be holy." This is good advice for all Christians, young and old.

The Apostle James pleads for the followers of Jesus Christ to be doers, not mere hearers, of the Word. Someone has said that people can be divided into four groups: drudges and drones, dreamers and doers. A drudge has tasks without a vision; a drone has neither a vision nor a task; a dreamer has a vision without a task; and a doer has both a vision and a task.

There is no doubt but that a Christian, who wants to use his influence for good, should heed the advice of James to be careful in the use of the tongue. Probably, no part of the body can do more good or more harm. The man or woman who has learned to control his or her tongue has gone far toward Christian discipline. However, as George Adam Smith, of Glasgow, suggests a man and woman should go as much as if he keeps silent when he ought to speak, as if he speaks out when he ought to keep silent.

## SHE'LL NEVER GRADUATE



This little girl is a "beginner." She has just entered the SCHOOL that will teach her HOW TO LIVE.

She'll never graduate! No one ever does! For religious education is different from secular education. It has to fit its pupils for living every day the very best way. In such a course, there just isn't any point at which the pupil can be sure he has enough "learning" to put away his books.

Therefore the Church Schools of our community provide classes for all ages. Every Sunday, while tiny tots are listening to Bible stories, grown-ups are studying the practical application of Bible truths in life.

Religious education should be a family activity. Don't just send your children to Church School. Come with them.

They need religious education because they must learn how to live. And you need it too, for life's richest possibilities are still ahead of you.

### THE CHURCH FOR ALL... ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For his children's sake. (3) For the sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

Day	Book	Chapter	Verses
Sunday	Psalms	119	7-9
Monday	Proverbs	3	12-18
Tuesday	Luke	6	11-15
Wednesday	Timothy	3	16-17
Thursday	I Peter	1	12-21
Friday	Psalms	36	5-10
Saturday	I Corinthians	13	9-13

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## Perquimans Church Services

- HERTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
C. W. Dailing, Pastor  
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.  
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.  
Evening Worship, 8 o'clock.  
Mid-week Services, Wednesday at 8 P. M.
- BETHLEHEM CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Joe Brickhouse, Pastor  
Church services at 3:00 P. M.  
Christian Union, 7:30 P. M.
- BURGESS BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. J. R. Byrly, Pastor  
Church services first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.  
Sunday School at 10:00 A. M.  
Church service 7:45 P. M. second and fourth Sundays.
- PERQUIMANS CHARGE CHURCHES**  
E. B. Edwards, Pastor
- First Sunday:  
New Hope Church, 11:00 A. M.  
Oak Grove Church, 7:30 P. M.
- Second Sunday:  
Winfall Church, 11:00 A. M.  
Cedar Grove Church, 10 A. M.  
Woodland Church, 7:30 P. M.
- Third Sunday:  
Oak Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.  
New Hope Church, 7:30 P. M.
- Fourth Sunday:  
Cedar Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.  
Woodland Church, 10 A. M.  
Winfall Church, 7:30 P. M.
- Fifth Sunday:  
Woodland Church, 11:00 A. M.  
Prayer Meeting each Wednesday at Winfall Church at 7:30 P. M.
- ANDERSON'S METHODIST CHURCH**  
E. R. Meekins, Pastor  
Church School, 10:00 A. M.  
Morning Worship, 11:00 A. M., second and fourth Sundays.
- WHITEVILLE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. Carl Bjork, Pastor  
Sunday School, 11 A. M. every Sunday except third Sunday.  
Church services every third Sunday at 8 P. M.
- UP RIVER FRIENDS CHURCH**  
Elizabeth White, Pastor  
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.  
Church Services, 11 A. M.  
Christian Endeavor, 6:30 P. M.
- BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. E. G. Willis, Pastor  
Sunday School, 10 A. M.  
Preaching first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.  
Preaching second and fourth Sunday evening at 7:30.
- PINEY WOODS FRIENDS CHURCH**  
Carl J. Yow, Pastor  
Sunday School, 10 A. M.  
Morning worship—11:00 A. M.  
Youth Fellowship, 6:30 P. M.
- WOODVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
G. M. Singletary, Pastor  
Sunday School, 10:30 A. M. on first and third Sundays and 2:00 P. M. on second and fourth Sundays.  
Church services, 3:00 P. M. on second and fourth Sundays.
- HERTFORD METHODIST CHURCH**  
Ben O. Merritt, Pastor  
Church School, 9:45 A. M.  
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.  
Youth Fellowship, 6:45 P. M.  
Evening Worship, 7:30 P. M.  
Mid-week Fellowship, Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.
- BAGLEY SWAMP PILGRIM**  
Coy S. Saunders, Pastor  
Sunday School, 10:00 A. M.  
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.  
Young People's Meeting, 6:30 P. M.  
Evening Worship, 7:30 o'clock.  
Mid-week Services, Thursday at 7:30 P. M.
- HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**  
Holy Communion, 9:00 A. M.  
Every Sunday except first Sunday at 9:00 A. M.  
Church School, 10:00 A. M.  
Morning Prayer and Sermon, 11:00 o'clock.  
Holy Communion first Sunday at 11 A. M.
- BEECH CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Walker Perry, Pastor  
2nd and 4th Sunday at 10:30 A. M.  
Morning worship on first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.  
Evening worship first and third Sundays at 7:30 P. M.
- CHAPEL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
A. H. Outlaw, Pastor  
Sunday School, 2 P. M. every first Sunday.  
Church Service 3 P. M. every first Sunday.  
Sunday School at 11 A. M. every second, third and fourth Sunday.

BE A BETTER CITIZEN!

GO TO SOME CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

Go To Church Your Church Any Church But Go