

Life Group Lesson - Week of July 30

When we were little most of us enjoyed pretending. We wondered what it would be like to be a superhero, a famous athlete, a fireman, or our favorite teacher. Some of us wanted to be like the popular girl or the smart, good-looking guy. Whatever our aspiration, we focused on something we wanted to live up to. And so we entered a world where we could live out our dreams and become a better person.

We still pretend, but hopefully, as we get older our aspirations lead us to emulate the faithful, more mature levels of leadership and behavior. The psalmist declared: “The godly people in the land are my true heroes! I take pleasure in them” (Psalm 16:3). In Christ we can become a new person, the person we admire (2 Corinthians 5:17). In fact, Paul says you can “let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think” (Romans 12:2a). True life-transformation starts in our heart and mind, and comes into fruition through a Christ-centered attitude.

Read Romans 12:1-21

The biggest challenge in living in full devotion to Christ is the gap between what we say we believe and how we actually live our day-to-day lives. In other words, our actions give us away if we are posing. Too often, we say we want to be a fully devoted follower of Christ, but are unwilling to admit our weakness, humble ourselves, and ask for help.

1. First Credo Killer is pride. How is pride the ultimate anti-God state of mind?

Once we fully surrender all to Christ, a true change of heart is produced by God’s Spirit. According to Romans 2:29 (especially focus on the last part of this verse) what does a changed heart ultimately seek?

2. Second Credo Killer is Bitterness and Unforgiveness. What does Colossians 3:13 say regarding this issue?

Holding onto a grudge and refusing to forgive the offense of another person is also rooted in pride. Harboring bitterness and keeping a record of debt will not only stunt our personal development, it will keep us from receiving God’s forgiveness (see Matthew 18:21-35). In what ways is this Credo Killer like being in prison with a life-sentence hanging over us?

3. Third Credo Killer is Resisting Spiritual Authority. Although we may *think* we have all the answers as a fully devoted follower of Christ, dishonoring spiritual authority demotes us. We become a “fully demoted follower” when we show disdain for spiritual authority. What do the following references say about this issue? Are you convicted on any point in these verses?

Romans 12:3 Romans 13:1-2 1 Peter 2:13-14, 3:5 Philippians 2:5-8

When we honor spiritual authority we live under God’s blessings, His covering, and His fulfillment for our lives and His Kingdom’s purpose. E. Stanley Jones has said, “You are never more fully yourself (the *You* that God intended you to be) than when you are fully surrendered to the Lord.” The Lord loves you. He designed you uniquely with a divine purpose for you to aspire to. Ask Him to remove any Credo Killers lurking in the shadows. Christ is our hero! Live into His shoes (sandals!) and become the new person He created you to be.

Life Group Lesson - Week of July 30

When we were little most of us enjoyed pretending. We wondered what it would be like to be a superhero, a famous athlete, a fireman, or our favorite teacher. Some of us wanted to be like the popular girl or the smart, good-looking guy. Whatever our aspiration, we focused on something we wanted to live up to. And so we entered a world where we could live out our dreams and become a better person.

We still pretend, but hopefully, as we get older our aspirations lead us to emulate the faithful, more mature levels of leadership and behavior. The psalmist declared: “The godly people in the land are my true heroes! I take pleasure in them” (Psalm 16:3). In Christ we can become a new person, the person we admire (2 Corinthians 5:17). In fact, Paul says you can “let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think” (Romans 12:2a). True life-transformation starts in our heart and mind, and comes into fruition through a Christ-centered attitude.

Read Romans 12:1-21

The biggest challenge in living in full devotion to Christ is the gap between what we say we believe and how we actually live our day-to-day lives. In other words, our actions give us away if we are posing. Too often, we say we want to be a fully devoted follower of Christ, but are unwilling to admit our weakness, humble ourselves, and ask for help.

1. First Credo Killer is pride. How is pride the ultimate anti-God state of mind?

Once we fully surrender all to Christ, a true change of heart is produced by God’s Spirit. According to Romans 2:29 (especially focus on the last part of this verse) what does a changed heart ultimately seek?

2. Second Credo Killer is Bitterness and Unforgiveness. What does Colossians 3:13 say regarding this issue?

Holding onto a grudge and refusing to forgive the offense of another person is also rooted in pride. Harboring bitterness and keeping a record of debt will not only stunt our personal development, it will keep us from receiving God’s forgiveness (see Matthew 18:21-35). In what ways is this Credo Killer like being in prison with a life-sentence hanging over us?

3. Third Credo Killer is Resisting Spiritual Authority. Although we may *think* we have all the answers as a fully devoted follower of Christ, dishonoring spiritual authority demotes us. We become a “fully demoted follower” when we show disdain for spiritual authority. What do the following references say about this issue? Are you convicted on any point in these verses?

Romans 12:3 Romans 13:1-2 1 Peter 2:13-14, 3:5 Philippians 2:5-8

When we honor spiritual authority we live under God’s blessings, His covering, and His fulfillment for our lives and His Kingdom’s purpose. E. Stanley Jones has said, “You are never more fully yourself (the *You* that God intended you to be) than when you are fully surrendered to the Lord.” The Lord loves you. He designed you uniquely with a divine purpose for you to aspire to. Ask Him to remove any Credo Killers lurking in the shadows. Christ is our hero! Live into His shoes (sandals!) and become the new person He created you to be.



Text: Romans 12:1-21

Plain Truth:

_____ Christianity is living Jesus' prayer
"not _____ will be done but _____ will be done."

- 1) _____ is a Credo _____.
- 2) Bitterness and _____
- 3) Resisting Spiritual _____

The outcome of submitting to spiritual authority:

- A) _____
- B) _____
- C) _____



Text: Romans 12:1-21

Plain Truth:

_____ Christianity is living Jesus' prayer
"not _____ will be done but _____ will be done."

- 1) _____ is a Credo _____.
- 2) Bitterness and _____
- 3) Resisting Spiritual _____

The outcome of submitting to spiritual authority:

- A) _____
- B) _____
- C) _____