

His Part 17- Do You Measure Up?

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Ephesians 4:1

2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Romans 12:2a

Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2b

It is easy to conform to church standards and rules. Its difficult to go through the process of actually owning God's standards internally and spiritually.

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence...” “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean. Matthew 23:25,27

Paul is pleading with us to live lives that hold up under deep scrutiny and measurement.

2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Ephesians 4:2

Humility is a distinctly Christian concept and is foundational for us, not optional.

“Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 18:3-4

Meekness is having power and choosing not to use it.

53 Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? Matthew 26:53

Patience has more to do with a life attitude than momentary circumstances.

Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city. Proverbs 16:32

Love that bears with one another gives willingly whether it receives in return or not.

3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. Ephesians 4:3-6

Humility, gentleness, patience, and love for others are the standards by which our faith is tested to determine it's purity or worth.