


Yesterday we looked at two areas in which we must be faithful. Let's continue this list today.

### Faithful in our Finances


Did you know that before God allows us to take on spiritual responsibilities, he considers how faithful we've conducted our finances?

 Luke 16:11. The word *mammon* used here means worldly wealth.

The Christian who is faithful in his finances is a man that God knows he can trust with other riches.

### Faithful in Secret Things


Perhaps the greatest test of our faithfulness, is what we do when no one is around to see us.

 Mat 6:4-6, 18. According to these verses, what 3 secret things should we be faithful in?

\_\_\_\_\_

If our faithfulness only extends to those things which others will observe or know about, then we are not faithful. Some Christians are more faithful in service, or in their standards, then they are in their secret devotions, why? Because they are more concerned with what others will think about them, than what God already knows about them. We ought to be faithful even when no one is around. We must be faithful in the secret things.

### Faithful in Small Things


 Luke 16:10 He that is faithful in that which is \_\_\_\_\_ is faithful also in \_\_\_\_\_: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

When it comes to faithfulness, there really are no big or small matters. God measures our faithfulness by what we do in the things which are least. Have you ever balked at the idea of serving in an area which you deemed "beneath you"? These are the very responsibilities that God observes in order to determine how faithful we are. If we are unfaithful in the least, God knows that we will also be unfaithful in much.

Our families, our friends, and our Heavenly Father, all require us to show the spiritual fruit of faithfulness. Consistently Christian character, secretly and openly, will have a profound impact in our spiritual lives and on those around us who observe. In what areas have you been unfaithful? Ask God to forgive you for your unfaithfulness, and yield to the Spirit as he desires to develop the fruit of faithfulness in your life.


## A Definition of Faithfulness

Thursday


 Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith...

The word for *faith* found in Galatians 5:22 is the greek word *pistis*, which generally means "persuasion of religious truth". In this passage it also brings with it the idea of continuing in the faith, or being *faithful*.

Faithfulness is a far reaching characteristic, it can include aspects of integrity, honesty, trustfulness, loyalty and dependability. This faithfulness is hard to come by in the world and in the church! But the spirit-controlled life will produce this quality in the obedient Christian.

 Psalm 12:1,2. David said that the *faithful fail from among the children of men*. What 3 things did he cite as characteristics of the unfaithful man?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

 Write out Proverbs 20:6. \_\_\_\_\_

Kind David was hard pressed to find faithful men. Likewise in today's society people have been disheartened by the lack of faithful employees, students, businessmen, politicians, and religious leaders. The lack of faithfulness all around us has lead to a state of skepticism and cynicism. Have you ever expected someone to be faithful, only to be let down and disappointed? Or have you ever made a promise that you did not keep? Christian men and women should be characterized by integrity, honesty and dependability. This is what the world craves, and what God has commanded:

 Write out 1 Cor 4:2 \_\_\_\_\_

Today, consider your faithfulness. Have you been a good testimony in your family, at work, in the church? Can God count on you to be faithful? If not, begin to yield to the Holy Spirit's conviction as He desires to make you more faithful.


## Divine Faithfulness

Friday


*Lamentations 3:22-23 It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.*

One of the great motivating factors for personal faithfulness, is the faithfulness which God has shown towards us.


In your own words, what do these verses indicate God is faithful in?


 Deuteronomy 7:9 Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, \_\_\_\_\_, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

**God is faithful in:**

 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is \_\_\_\_\_ to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**God is faithful to:**

 1 Cor 10:13. **When I am tempted, God is faithful to:**

 1 Thess 5:23,24. God, who has called us to salvation is faithful. What will he be faithful at performing in our lives now that we are saved?


Everyday that we live for Jesus Christ, we prove his faithfulness. Our eternal security rests in his faithfulness. His exercise of mercy on our behalf is due to his faithfulness. His forgiveness of our sins when we ask, displays his faithfulness. Our ability to overcome temptation by his power illustrates his faithfulness. His continual work in our lives to make us more like Himself is a result of his faithfulness toward us.

When we consider God's faithfulness, his mercy and his grace, it ought to motivate us to be more faithful to Him. Take time today to recount the many areas in which God has been faithful to you. Consider his provision, his protection, his answers to prayer, and His forgiveness for your sin.

## Daily Faithfulness


Saturday


If we are to be faithful Christians, we must yield to what God desires of us on a daily basis. Faithfulness by definition requires a consistent and continual performance of Christian character. This consistency at times, can be the hardest part of the Christian life. Being faithful and consistent in our Bible reading, prayer, relationships, employment, and personal testimony are essential to secure the blessings of God on our lives.

 Rev 2:10. To whom did Jesus say he would give a crown of life?

**In Service toward God**

 2 Tim 2:2. What kind of men does God desire to use in the ministry?

 1 Tim 3:10,11. What is required of a deacon's wife?

 Titus 1:6. What is required of a Bishop's children?


God desires faithful men and women to serve Him in the ministry. These men and women lived consistently holy lives in and outside of the church. They were, according to Titus 1:7, blameless. Our lives of faithfulness prevent the world or other believers from accusing us of wrongdoing or hypocrisy.

**In our Friendships**

If you and your friends were asked to write a letter to a faithful friend, could you think of one? Would you receive a letter?

 Prov 11:13. What does a faithful friend not do?

 Prov 17:17. When does a friend love?

 Prov 25:19. Have you ever bit down on a broken tooth before? Generally you experience a sharp pain, and soreness afterward. This is the picture God gives of the consequence of relying on an unfaithful person. When the unfaithful servant or friend has pressure applied, or when we depend on them to get a job done, it results only in pain. Can God, and your friends, trust you to be faithful? Will you complete a task that you've begun? Will you be there in times of trouble? Tomorrow we will look at more areas in which we must be faithful.

## **The Fruit of the Spirit is Faithfulness**

## **Review**

### **From Thursday**

1. What are some aspects of faithfulness?
2. When people continually experience the unfaithfulness of others, how might they begin to view others?

### **From Friday**

1. Recount a time when you know that God was faithful to you.

### **From Saturday**

1. What would happen if a church discovered it's Pastor or workers were living unfaithful lives?

### **From Monday**

1. If a man has a meager income and is unfaithful with it, what do you think he would do with a larger income?
2. Are you faithful in regular Bible reading and prayer?