

# Living a selfless life

## modeled after the life of Jesus

Super Saturday Jesus Rally  
February 13th, 2016

### Our bodies are not our own:

**1 Corinthians 6:** 19 Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, **20** for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.

### Convicting Verses

**1 Corinthians 15:** 30 And what about us? Why do we put ourselves in danger every hour? 31 I die every day. That is true, brothers and sisters, just as it is true that I brag about you in Christ Jesus our Lord. 32 If I fought wild animals in Ephesus only with human hopes, I have gained nothing. If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, because tomorrow we will die." (NCV)

**Mark 8:** 34 Then Jesus called the crowd to him, along with his followers. He said, "If people want to follow me, they must give up the things they want. They must be willing even to give up their lives {take up your cross} to follow me. 35 Those who want to save their lives will give up true life. But those who give up their lives for me and for the Good News will have true life. (NCV)

**John 12:** 23 Jesus replied, "Now the time has come for the Son of Man to enter into his glory. 24 I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives. 25 Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity. 26 Anyone who wants to serve me must follow me, because my servants must be where I am. And the Father will honor anyone who serves me.

### Keys to selflessness

**Romans 12:** And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. 2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

In order to renew our mind, we must fill our minds with godly thoughts and the people that God puts on our hearts.

Take our thoughts off of the natural (material possessions, circumstances)

**1 John 2:** 15 Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. 16 For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. 17 And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.

**Colossians 3** Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. 2 Think about the things of

heaven, not the things of earth. **3** For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. **4** And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.

**5** So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. **6** Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming. **7** You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world. **8** But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language. **9** Don't lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds. **10** Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him. **11** In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us.

Practicing the disciplines, reading, prayer and fellowship help keep us focused.

### **A look at Paul's life**

**2 Timothy 4: 3** For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. **4** They will reject the truth and chase after myths.

**5** But you should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you.

**6** As for me, my life has already been poured out as an offering to God. The time of my death is near. **7** I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. **8** And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing.

### **A Study of Jesus' life**

#### **Even at a young age Jesus knew He was to please His Father in Heaven**

**Luke 2: 41** Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. **42** When Jesus was twelve years old, they attended the festival as usual. **43** After the celebration was over, they started home to Nazareth, but Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents didn't miss him at first, **44** because they assumed he was among the other travelers. But when he didn't show up that evening, they started looking for him among their relatives and friends. **45** When they couldn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem to search for him there. **46** Three days later they finally discovered him in the Temple, sitting among the religious teachers, listening to them and asking questions. **47** All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

**48** His parents didn't know what to think. "Son," his mother said to him, "why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been frantic, searching for you everywhere."

**49** "But why did you need to search?" he asked. "Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?" **50** But they didn't understand what he meant. (KJV "I must be about my Father's business?")

#### **Jesus' love proven by His compassion, which drives His selflessness**

**Matthew 9: 35** Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of

disease and illness. **36** When he saw the crowds, **he had compassion on them** because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. **37** He said to his disciples, "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. **38** So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields."

**Mark 6: 30** The apostles returned to Jesus from their ministry tour and told him all they had done and taught. **31** Then Jesus said, "Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile." He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn't even have time to eat.

**32** So they left by boat for a quiet place, where they could be alone. **33** But many people recognized them and saw them leaving, and people from many towns ran ahead along the shore and got there ahead of them. **34** Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and **he had compassion** on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. **So he began teaching them many things.**

**John 10: 11** "I am the good shepherd. **The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.** **12** A hired hand will run when he sees a wolf coming. He will abandon the sheep because they don't belong to him and he isn't their shepherd. And so the wolf attacks them and scatters the flock. **13** The hired hand runs away because he's working only for the money and doesn't really care about the sheep.

**14** "I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, **15** just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. **So I sacrifice my life for the sheep.** **16** I have other sheep, too, that are not in this sheepfold. I must bring them also. They will listen to my voice, and there will be one flock with one shepherd.

**17** "The Father loves me because I sacrifice my life so I may take it back again. **18** No one can take my life from me. **I sacrifice it voluntarily.** For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. **For this is what my Father has commanded."**

**John 5: 19** So Jesus explained, "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does.

**John 12: 49** I don't speak on my own authority. The Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it. **50** And I know his commands lead to eternal life; so I say whatever the Father tells me to say."

**Luke 22: 41** He walked away, about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, **42** "Father, if you are willing, please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine."

#### **Isaiah 64:**

4 For since the world began,  
no ear has heard  
and no eye has seen a God like you,  
who works for those who wait for him!  
5 You welcome those who gladly do good,  
who follow godly ways.  
But you have been very angry with us,  
for we are not godly.  
We are constant sinners;

how can people like us be saved?  
6 We are all infected and impure with sin.  
When we display our righteous deeds,  
they are nothing but filthy rags.  
Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall,  
and our sins sweep us away like the wind.  
7 Yet no one calls on your name  
or pleads with you for mercy.  
Therefore, you have turned away from us  
and turned us over to our sins.  
8 And yet, O LORD, you are our Father.  
We are the clay, and you are the potter.  
We all are formed by your hand.  
9 Don't be so angry with us, LORD.  
Please don't remember our sins forever.  
Look at us, we pray,  
and see that we are all your people.

**Colossians 3: 10** Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him.

## Read - Share - Pray