

HOW ARE WE DOING
AS CHRISTIANS?

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THE IMPORTANCE OF SELF-REFLECTION

2 Corinthians 13:5-6

5 Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?--unless indeed you fail to meet the test! 6 I hope you will find out that we have not failed the test.

Galatians 6:1-5

1 Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. 5 For each will have to bear his own load.

HOW ARE WE DOING AS CHRISTIANS?

HOW DO WE TEST OURSELVES?

- What is the standard to which we are measuring ourselves?
 - We are trying to be like Christ
 - 1Corinthians 11:1 1 Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.
- How do we become like Christ?
 - Romans 12:1-2 1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.
 - Do we daily consider how we will live as a sacrifice?
 - Do we daily consider how we have and continue to be transformed from our old selves by God's grace?

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HOW DO WE TEST OURSELVES?

- The tests in our lives, big and small
- How do we respond to tests in our lives?
- Do we take time to evaluate our response to the tests in our life and try to improve?

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WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF OUR TEST?

- Galatians 5:22-24 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
- Do we have the “fruits” of the life of a Christian in our lives?

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HOW DO WE IMPROVE OUR RESULTS?

- Are we objective with our assessment of ourselves?
- Do we hold ourselves accountable?
- Are we genuinely trying to improve ourselves to become more like Christ?

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GOD HAS GIVEN US TOOLS TO USE TO IMPROVE

- His word

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

- Fellow Christians

- Galatians 6:2 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

- The tests we encounter in our lives

- James 1:2-4 2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

HOW ARE WE DOING AS CHRISTIANS?

WE'VE ALWAYS GOT WORK TO DO

- Romans 6:12-14 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. 13 Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. 14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.