

Part-Time Verse Full-Time Christian Living

How you deal with people in your life and the situations you are confronted with reveals how you are dealing with your faith in God. Are you a 'Part-Time Christian'; one who lives part of the time as a Christian; living part of the values of a Christian; living part of a lie in part of your life, or are you a 'Full-time Christian'; living Christ-like -- exhibiting all [the fruit of the Spirit](#)?

Making Proper Decisions with the Choices You Are Presented With Involves...

- *How you will interact with people in your **family/home***
- *How you will interact with people in your **community***
- *How you will interact with people at your **job***
- *How you will interact with people at your **church***
- *How you will interact with situations in your life*

Prior to Making a Decision You Must Understand the Choices:

- In the biblical context, choices are actually paths that you are confronted with. Choosing or deciding to take one path [choice] over another path [choice] is based on your capacity to judge [discern] what is acceptable to God, or what is acceptable for self. Making the 'right decision' involves [seeking consult with God](#). In order to seek consult with God, you need to have a relationship with Him. In order to have a relationship with Him, you need to read and understand His word for your life. In order to have a relationship with God, you need to know Him. In order to know God, you need to believe that He is God and trust to share your whole heart with Him, even the dark corners of your heart, and also go through your life experiences with Him; not shutting Him out.

Making a Decision Over the Choices Presented Involves Employing at least Three Separate Distinct Acts:

- **Thinking:**
What are you thinking about when you are dealing with people, things or situations in your life? Is it Godly thoughts? Or, are they thoughts that are not of God?
- **Feeling:**
What are you feeling when you interact with people, things or situations in your life? Is it strong emotion of anger? Or, is it an emotion of love or compassion?
- **Behaving:**
How are you acting around people, things or situations in your life? Are we acting consistent with our Christian belief system? Are you acting like you don't know that you have belief system?

Have a Keen Sense of Awareness About What the Choices Actually Are:

'Choice points' are moments that you recognize there is an opportunity to choose or decide between two or more options, acts, opportunities, paths, or ways, and you make your decision based on what you believe in the most.

For example,

- A 'choice point'; is when you have some extra time and you have a chance to either read your bible or watch T.V.

- A ‘choice point’ is when someone has done something that has angered you and you have an opportunity to tell them off or to pray in your Spirit first before speaking to them.
- A ‘choice point’ is when you recognize that you are not doing all of what God asked you to do, and you know this, but you have the opportunity or ‘free-will’ to choose.

In order to make the proper decision [judgment] at the ‘choice points’, you need to have a heightened sense of awareness or discernment of what those choices actually are, what they mean to you as a Christian, and your ability to hear the quiet voice [input] of the Holy Spirit within. Now, if the Holy Spirit is not in you, or you have never listened to the Holy Spirit when He spoke to you and told you which way to choose, you will be at a great disadvantage. However, if you are accustomed to listening and yielding to the Holy Spirit within, then you will be aided in making a ‘proper decision’ about which option, act, opportunity, path or way to choose. The more awareness you have about the significance of the choices confronted with, and the more you analyzed them in the context of the three separate distinct acts (as indicated above), you will be able to exercise proper judgment [choices or decisions]; ones that are pleasing to God. In doing so, you are moving closer to achieving “Full-Time Christian Living”.

Consequences of Choosing Verse Your Choosing the Consequences:

Whichever choices you do make, they will have an impact on your living. Making Proper decisions over the choices presented, as often as you can, leads to “Full-time Christian Living”. Like a full-time employee, you gain all the benefits that are offered with the package. What are some of those benefits? They are the [Fruit of the Spirit](#) or Peace of Mind, Joy, Kindness, Long suffering, Love, Faith, which brings you to the place where you are displaying Christ-likeness; which is every Christian’s destiny. On the other hand, “Part-Time Christian Living” is more [carnally-minded](#); concern with acquiring worldly things, and interacting with people and responding to situations in a worldly manner. Someone of this nature should not expect to get the full benefits of “Full-Time Christian Living”, although they should expect to get a reward appropriate for their conduct.

Meaning Associated With Choices:

Bernard Mohr wrote, *“Interpreting your own reality is the basis for all choices. Choices mean to be conscious of the opportunities to think, to feel, to behave as an observer and to participate at the same time.”* ‘To be’ and ‘to be aware’ of being a Christian is the essence of choices; an accumulation of making proper decisions. Choices are the ‘Free Will’ that you retain throughout our faith walk, and of course, before you surrender to God. And so the expression which dominates our life track becomes *“How do we learn to let go what we have fallen in love with?”* We surrender it! We surrender it to God.”

Conclusion:

We all have to decide to choose to be a “Full-Time Christian”, or not. Making proper choices, leads to “Full-Time Christian Living”. Choosing ‘some proper’ and ‘some improper’ choices, leads to “Part-Time Christian Living”, which comes with half of the benefits from God, but then that’s depending on the nature of the choices confronted with. Tragically, some choices can result in losing your very soul, and there’s clearly no benefit in that. To avert such a monumental disaster, be ‘sober-minded’ and always choose God!

By Pastor Steve, “Words For Life”