

ACTING LIKE JESUS

LESSON BY JASMINE MITCHELL (FOR LADS TO LEADERS/LEADERETTES)

Have you ever thought about how Jesus acted? He was loyal, a great servant, and followed the Lord all the time. Today I'm going to tell you some ways that you can act like Jesus.

1. Avoiding Temptations

All of us have encountered some type of temptation and we need to learn how to avoid them. Of course, there are different types of temptations, such as peer pressure, bullying, or maybe deciding to eat a candy bar, or not. But I'm here to tell you that we can avoid them! Don't let temptation lure you into its trap of wickedness! Stand up for God, and show Him that you can get to Heaven. Another type of temptation might be the tongue. **James 3:8** says, *"For no man can tame the tongue. It is unruly, evil, full of deadly poison."* Yeah! It can be when you use it for bad language or gossip, but we don't have to! We can use it to pray to God and to talk to Him; we can avoid the temptation!

2. Loving Your Enemies

My second point is about loving your enemies, even though you might not like them. Have you ever heard of the Golden Rule? Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. **Matthew 5:44** says *"But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you."* Now I know we are probably thinking, why should we be nice to someone who's mean to us? We should because that's what God would want us to do and not just because WE know it's the right thing to do. Maybe if we're nice to them, they might be nice to us! Also, having faith and good works helps us too. If we do not believe in others doing well in their Christian walk, then what makes you think we will! **James 2:14** says, *"What does it profit my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works can faith save him?"* I say NO! We can't just have faith, we need to have a faith that God is there, but without working and reading your Bible then it's dead! We have to truly believe and work at something to get a great result out of it.

3. Living A Spiritual Life

Do you pray regularly? Some of us probably do, and some of us probably don't, but we should. **Matthew 28:20** says, *"Teaching them to observe all things I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen."* Praying is one of the most important ways to know if God is really there. I mean we talk to Him for things we need, and for the sick, so let your prayers be meaningful to God and love Him in the way that you can. Another way of living a spiritual life is to Study our Bibles and open our hearts to Him. By studying we can learn more about the Lord and teach others about Him, so that we can get to Heaven some day. Lastly, do not put on a mask, be real! Putting on a mask means you might act one way somewhere, then when you leave that place, you act different. We call that being a hypocrite. When we just meet someone, we act shy, but when we get with our regular friends that nervousness and awkwardness goes away. But why do we do this? When we've known someone for so long, we limit ourselves to that person and we stay in our "comfort zone". We're scared of getting out and meeting new people, but at one point the person we have known for so long was new too. As Christians we should get out and not be scared to show others our Lord. We need to be real and genuine. We have all probably done this at one time or another, but we shouldn't. God knows and can see everything we do. Jesus NEVER put on a mask! He was loyal and faithful to God all the time, so I know if we work hard we can be too.

Before I close, I'd like to read you **Philippians 1:20**--*"According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether life or death."* We need to live exactly like that. Paul did. So let me ask you this. Do you avoid temptations? Love your enemies? Live a spiritual life? Do YOU act like Jesus? If not, it's not too late to change. Let's keep striving to do what's right till Jesus comes!