

# ***JUST DO IT:***

***“How Can I Avoid Selfishness?”***

***RIVERSIDE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY (Fayetteville, TN)***

***Spiritual Emphasis Day Lesson #2 = October 1, 2010***

**Text: James 1:19-25**

*<sup>19</sup> My dear brothers and sisters, always be willing to listen and slow to speak. Do not become angry easily,<sup>20</sup> because anger will not help you live the right kind of life God wants.<sup>21</sup> So put out of your life every evil thing and every kind of wrong. Then in gentleness accept God's teaching that is planted in your hearts, which can save you.*

*<sup>22</sup> Do what God's teaching says; when you only listen and do nothing, you are fooling yourselves.<sup>23</sup> Those who hear God's teaching and do nothing are like people who look at themselves in a mirror.<sup>24</sup> They see their faces and then go away and quickly forget what they looked like.<sup>25</sup> But the truly happy people are those who carefully study God's perfect law that makes people free, and they continue to study it. They do not forget what they heard, but they obey what God's teaching says. Those who do this will be made happy. (New Century Version)*

**Introduction:** The holiday season is coming soon! It can be a time of giving or it can be a time of selfishness. Which is better giving or getting? Why do we love Halloween? We get candy! In sports, nobody likes a ball hog. In our Christian walk we have to avoid selfishness if we want to be a true follower of Jesus. What characteristics do we need to have? Let's study . . . .

**Discussion:**

***I. HUMILITY***

**Matthew 18:2-4, Matthew 7:13-14, I Peter 5:5**

***II. RESPONSIBILITY***

**Matthew 18:5-7, Philippians 2:12, Matthew 5:13-16, I Corinthians 8:12**

***III. SELF DENIAL***

**Matthew 18:8-10, Colossians 3:5, Matthew 16:24, I Corinthians 9:24-27**

***IV. COMPASSION***

**Matthew 18:11-14, Luke 15, Luke 19:10, Mark 16:15-16**

***V. DISCIPLINE***

**Matthew 18:15-18, Hebrews 12, I Corinthians 5, Galatians 6:1**

**Conclusion:** I think we can all agree that these are important qualities of a Christian. On the other hand, are we practicing these things in our life? It is simple to see Jesus' example and criticize others that have not followed Him. But what about you? Do you think you're the greatest in the kingdom of God? Maybe you should think again. Don't be selfish! Lace up. Start walking. Just do it.