



FAIRVIEW CHURCH OF CHRIST

3199 Chisholm Rd

Iron City, Tennessee 38463

(931) 724-4282

LESSON STUDY GUIDE

Prepared by Ray Reynolds



Focus on the Family of God

FAIRVIEW CHURCH OF CHRIST (Iron City, TN)

Sermon by Ray Reynolds on September 25, 2016

Introduction: We are considered to be the children of God, our Heavenly Father. What can we do as a church family to stay focused on fulfilling our God-given mission? Let's study together...

Discussion:

I. FOCUS Takes Faithfulness - How can we be more focused on faithfulness?

- Faith, when following Christ, requires only a small amount (Luke 17:6).
- Faith is necessary for salvation (John 3:16, 8:24, Acts 4:12, 16:31, Romans 3:28).
- Faith puts us in a right relationship with our God (Romans 5:1, Hebrews 11:6).
- Faith comes from hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17, Acts 15:7).
- Faith as a church family is vital to our survival (Revelation 2-3).
- Faith is lived out and will be rewarded (Revelation 2:10).

II. FOCUS Takes Outreach - How can we be more focused on outreach?

- Outreach is following the mission of Jesus even if we are ridiculed (Matthew 11:17, Luke 7:34).
- Outreach is following the mission of Jesus to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10).
- Outreach is following the mission of Jesus to call the sinners, not the righteous (Matthew 9:13).
- Outreach is following the mission of Jesus to the sick, not the healthy (Matthew 9:12).
- Outreach is following the mission of Jesus w/o discrimination (Acts 10:34, Colossians 3:25, James 2:1-9).
- Outreach is following the mission of Jesus just like the early church (Acts 6, 10-11, 15).

III. FOCUS Takes Change - How can we be more focused on change?

- Repentance opens the way for a greater relationship with God (Luke 3:7-8).
- Repentance is necessary for salvation (Luke 13:3-5, Acts 2:38, 3:19, 17:30).
- Repentance is also about transformation (Romans 12:1-2, II Corinthians 5:17).
- Repentance involves sacrifice (Matthew 16:24, Luke 9:23).
- Repentance involves submission (Matthew 26:36-46, Luke 14:27, I Peter 2:21-25).
- Repentance is becoming less like the world (John 8:22-24, 15:19, 17:14-16, I John 4:5).

IV. FOCUS Takes Unity - How can we be more focused on unity?

- Unity is necessary among believers (Psalm 133:1, I Corinthians 1:10).
- Unity prevents Christians from living in isolation (John 17:11).
- Unity is bearing one another's joys & burdens (Romans 12:9-16, Galatians 6:1-2).
- Unity is seeking the same mind & judgment (I Corinthians 1:10, Philippians 2:5).
- Unity is understanding diversity (Ephesians 4:3-13, Acts 2:46-47, 4:32-35, Galatians 3:26-29).
- Unity is loving others (Matthew 22:39, John 13:34-35, I Corinthians 13:1-13, Philippians 1:3-11, 2:1-2).

V. FOCUS Takes Service - How can we be more focused on service?

- Hard work and Christian service is honored by God (Genesis 31:38-42).
- Hard work honors and pleases God (Exodus 36:1, Matthew 25:14-30).
- Hard work brings rewards (Proverbs 12:14) and supplies our needs (Proverbs 28:19).
- Hard work for God is never wasted (I Corinthians 15:58, Galatians 6:9).
- Hard work should be done as though we are working for God (Ephesians 6:5-9).
- Hard work is a sign of an active faith (James 2:14-26).

Conclusion: These are just five things to help us stay focused on the family of God. What do we need the most in our church family? What are the most important things for our congregation and community? Are you focused or are you distracted? Let's get on track with God's vision!



Focus on the Service of God

FAIRVIEW CHURCH OF CHRIST (Iron City, TN)

Sermon by Ray Reynolds on September 25, 2016

Introduction: As Christians we can compare our transformation (into our walk with God) to that of a caterpillar and a butterfly. We go through trials and triumphs with pain and grief. We question our reasons for living. However, God is preparing us for something amazing! We just need to see His handiwork and trust in His plan. Then, we need to get to work! In this lesson we will focus on what it means to serve God. Let's study together...

Discussion:

- I. **FOCUS Takes a Real Sacrifice – How can I offer myself as a real Christian sacrifice?**
 - *Sacrificial Christian Fellowship* (Romans 12:1-8, Colossians 3:12, Ephesians 4:11-16)
 - *Sacrificial Christian Service* (Romans 12:9-16, I Thessalonians 5:16-22, John 13:34-35)
 - *Sacrificial Christian Living* (Romans 12:17-21, James 4:17, II Timothy 4:6-8)
- II. **FOCUS Takes a Living Sacrifice – How can I offer myself as a living Christian sacrifice?**
 - *Give God Your Time* (Matthew 6:5-13, Ephesians 5:16)
 - *Give God Your Talents* (Matthew 5:13-16, Romans 12:9-13)
 - *Give God Your Toil* (Matthew 6:1-4, I Corinthians 16:1-2)
- III. **FOCUS Takes a Holy Sacrifice – How can I offer myself as a holy Christian sacrifice?**
 - *God Is Holy* (Psalm 93:5, Isaiah 59:2, Revelation 4:8)
 - *God's Children Are Holy* (I Peter 1:15, Matthew 5:48, Hebrews 12:14)
 - *God's Word Is Holy* (II Corinthians 9:8, John 17:17)
- IV. **FOCUS Takes an Acceptable Sacrifice – How can I offer myself as an acceptable Christian sacrifice?**
 - *Learning God's Way* (Psalm 18:30, Psalm 33:4, Psalm 119:89)
 - *Living God's Way* (Jeremiah 29:11, Proverbs 14:12, Proverbs 16:25)
 - *Loving God's Way* (Psalm 119:140, II Timothy 3:16-17)
- V. **FOCUS Takes a Reasonable Sacrifice – How can I offer myself as a responsible Christian sacrifice?**
 - *Expect Daily Challenges* (James 1:2, I Corinthians 10:13)
 - *Expect Daily Guidance* (Psalm 46:10, Matthew 6:33)
 - *Expect Daily Triumphs* (Psalm 150:6, II Corinthians 15:58)

Conclusion: These are just five things to help us stay focused on Christian service. What do we need the most in our own Christian walk? If you're not Christian, you need to change that today. There are steps we must take to assure our salvation: a person must hear the gospel (Romans 10:17), then believe in Jesus Christ (John 8:24), repent of their sins (Luke 13:3), confess their faith in Jesus (Matthew 10:32), be baptized (Mark 16:16), and then must remain faithful (Revelation 2:10). What are the most important things for our congregation and community? Are you focused or are you distracted? Let's get on track with God's vision!



Focus on the Love of God

FAIRVIEW CHURCH OF CHRIST (Iron City, TN)

Sermon by Ray Reynolds on September 25, 2016

Introduction: Jesus was used to debating and discussing things of a religious nature but the religious leaders of His day were focused on the Old Law and the prophets. Jesus took an opportunity to share the heart of the law and focus them in a new direction. When we make a decision to follow Christ we have to be committed to following Him all the way (**John 14:6**). What does that mean? **Mark 12:28-31** will give us great words to live by in the kingdom. Let's study together...

Discussion:

- I. **FOCUS Means Love the Lord With All Your Heart - How can we follow God emotionally?**
 - Purify Your Heart (**I Samuel 16:7, Matthew 5:8, James 4:8**)
 - Speak Your Heart (**Proverbs 23:7, Matthew 12:34-35, Hebrews 4:12**)
 - Follow Your Heart (**II Corinthians 9:7, Ephesians 6:5-6, II Timothy 2:22**)
 - Confess Your Heart (**Matthew 10:32-33, Romans 6:17-18, Romans 10:9-10**)
 - Keep Your Heart (**Psalms 51:10-13, Proverbs 4:23, I Timothy 1:5**)
- II. **FOCUS Means Love the Lord With All Your Soul - How can we follow God spiritually?**
 - Know Your Soul (**Mark 8:36-37, Matthew 10:28, I Timothy 4:8**)
 - Convert Your Soul (**Psalms 19:7, James 1:21, Romans 12:1-2**)
 - Guide Your Soul (**I Peter 1:22, I Peter 3:21, I John 3:3**)
 - Complete Your Soul (**I Corinthians 13:9, Colossians 2:10, II Timothy 3:16-17**)
 - Save Your Soul (**I Peter 1:9, Mark 16:16, Matthew 28:18-20**)
- III. **FOCUS Means Love the Lord With All Your Mind - How can we follow God mentally?**
 - Respect Your Mind (**Romans 1:28, Romans 8:5-6, Colossians 1:21**)
 - Protect Your Mind (**I Peter 5:7, Philippians 4:7, II Corinthians 10:4-5**)
 - Renew Your Mind (**Romans 12:2, Ephesians 4:23, Philippians 2:5**)
 - Focus Your Mind (**Acts 17:11, I Corinthians 2:16, I Peter 1:13-16**)
 - Motivate Your Mind (**Acts 20:19, I Peter 5:2, Romans 7:25**)
- IV. **FOCUS Means Love the Lord With All Your Strength - How can we follow God physically?**
 - Appreciate Your Strength (**I Corinthians 6:13, I Corinthians 6:19-20, Galatians 5:16-18**)
 - Identify Your Strength (**Romans 5:6, 7:18, 7:24, 8:13**)
 - Build Your Strength (**II Corinthians 4:10, Galatians 6:17, Philippians 1:20-21**)
 - Renew Your Strength (**Romans 8:10, II Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 3:26-27**)
 - Reveal Your Strength (**II Corinthians 12:9, Isaiah 40:31, Ephesians 6:10-20**)
- V. **FOCUS Means Love Your Neighbor as Yourself - How can we follow God socially and personally?**
 - Meet/Greet Your Neighbor (**Matthew 5:13-16, Matthew 7:12, Philippians 2:15**)
 - Help Your Neighbor (**Matthew 10:42, Luke 10:25-37, Luke 11:5-13**)
 - Admire Your Neighbor (**Matthew 5:43-48, Romans 13:9, I John 4:20**)
 - Encourage Your Neighbor (**Romans 15:2, Luke 12:1, I Corinthians 5:6-7, 12:25**)
 - Teach Your Neighbor (**Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-16, I Timothy 4:12**)

Conclusion: Every facet of your life should be impacted by faith in God, dedication to Jesus Christ, and comfort in the Holy Spirit. Do you follow God emotionally, spiritually, intellectually, physically, personally, and socially? Are you focused or are you distracted? Let's get on track with God's vision!