

GLORIFY GOD

“DO ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD”

The most important thing we can accomplish in life is to bring glory to God. When we draw people's attention back to God by the way we walk and talk, we give evidence for His existence.

Notes and Outline

By

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1 CORINTHIANS 10:31

BRINGING GLORY TO GOD

1 Corinthians 10:31

“Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

What is the purpose of life? What is the most important thing that we can accomplish in life? The answer is bringing glory to God. One of the core components of the Christian faith, held by all Bible believing churches and followers of Jesus Christ, is this statement: *“The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.”* Glorifying God is not an option to be considered; it is to be the purpose driving everything we do in life.

When we look at the life of Jesus, we find one purpose that overshadowed every other purpose that He had as He walked this planet. That one purpose was to glorify His Father in Heaven by doing the work that His Father sent Him to do. As Jesus prayed in **John 17:3**, He said, *“I glorified You on earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do.”* If we want to be more like Jesus, walking in the same manner as He walked, as we are told to do in **1 John 2:6**, then we too must have the same purpose in life. We must purposely glorify the Father by doing the work that He has given us to do. As we are told in **1 Corinthians 10:31**, *“Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”*

To see how to glorify God while living out our daily lives we must answer the question: What does it mean to glorify God?

- First, it means to give Him the highest honor by exalting Him above ourselves and everyone else.
- Second, it means to declare His majestic name. Notice what David declared in **Psalm 8:1** and again in **Psalm 8:9**. I am going to insert the Hebrew name for God that David used along with what it means. David said, *“O LORD* (Yahweh, the eternal, holy, self-existent One), *our Lord* (Adonai, our Sovereign Master of the universe), *how majestic is Your name in all the earth, Who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens!”* David glorified God by declaring God’s name and by declaring that God’s name was majestic. See my Blog Post #47. David made a powerful commitment to God in **Psalm 86:9-12**. He said, *“All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and they shall glorify Your name. For You are great and do wondrous deeds; You alone are God. Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my heart*

to fear Your name. I will give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and will glorify Your name forever.” It is no wonder God said David was a man after His own heart. David was determined to glorify God’s name and so must we. See my book published by Xulon Press titled: *What’s His Name?* It declares the majestic names of God and how we can draw closer to God by knowing and understanding His names.

- Third, glorifying God also means to acknowledge who He is: His attributes and eternal power (what He is like), and His divine nature (how He acts). For example, one of God’s attributes is love. The way He acts is always in a loving way. He always acts according to His attributes. Therefore, we should glorify Him by praising Him for His love and glorify, honor and exalt Him by loving others as He loves us.

There are three ways we bring glory to God as follows: By who we are, by what we say and by what we do.

GOD IS GLORIFIED BY WHO WE ARE

In **Philippians 1:9-11**, the apostle Paul let the Philippians know that he was praying for them and exactly what he was praying about. He said, *“And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”* I want us to notice three things in **verse 11**. First, it was a forgone conclusion that they had already *“been filled with the fruit of righteousness.”* Second, the *“fruit of righteousness...comes through Jesus Christ.”* And third, the *“fruit of righteousness”* brings *“glory and praise of God.”* Every person who has put their faith in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and Lord has been given His righteousness. That is who we are in Christ.

Notice what the following passages tell us. Let them pierce your heart and if need be change your life. In **2 Corinthians 5:21** the apostle Paul told us what the Father did through Jesus. He said, *“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”* In **1 Peter 2:24** the apostle Peter said, *“...and He Himself (referring to Jesus) bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds we were healed.”* The apostle John said **1 John 2:29**, *“If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness is born of Him.”* Again the apostle John said in **1 John 3:7**, *“Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.”* That is God’s plan for everyone’s life and that is who we are in Christ, we are His righteousness.

How do we learn to live God’s righteousness? The answer: As we are trained by God through His Word and as He disciplines us. We are told in **2 Timothy 3:16**, *“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness.”* It is important to understand that Jesus has given us His righteousness by the indwelling Holy Spirit the moment we receive Him as our personal Savior and Lord. Then, we are trained in His righteousness as the Holy Spirit takes God’s Word and transforms our lives. We are trained by His Word so that His righteousness will bear fruit in our lives to the glory and praise of God. Also, according to **Hebrews 12:10-11**, *“He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share*

His holiness...to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.” So, what kind of fruit does His righteousness produce in our lives so He is glorified?

First, it is the fruit of the Spirit. The fruit of His righteousness becomes evident in our lives when we walk by the Spirit (**Galatians 5:16-25**). Everyone has a choice to make. We either walk by the Spirit or walk by the flesh. We either live according to God’s righteousness or not. The choice is ours, but we must be ready for the consequences associated with our choice. One choice bears the fruit of the flesh, the other the fruit of God’s righteousness. One choice begs for God’s discipline, the other for God’s blessings. One choice inherits eternal condemnation by rejecting Jesus while the other inherits the eternal kingdom of God by receiving Jesus as Savior and Lord. *“For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins”* (**Colossians 1:13-14**). When we put our trust in Jesus as our Savior and Lord we become part of His eternal kingdom and given His eternal righteousness. As believers, we have chosen to be filled with the fruit of His righteousness. Therefore we must live like it by walking by the Spirit so He is glorified.

Second, His righteousness produces the kind of fruit that affects the lives of others, in a positive way. We are told in **Proverbs 11:30**, *“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who is wise wins souls.”* Our lives become a source of life for others, including the fruit of life eternal, as we share how to receive God’s grace. Our lives become a source of life for others as we share with people how to make right choices based on God’s Word and right choices based on our own life experiences. This is how we bear the fruit of righteousness that brings glory and praise to God.

GOD IS GLORIFIED BY WHAT WE SAY

Another way we bring glory to God is through what we say. This is seen through three examples given in Scripture.

The first is found in **Romans 15:4-6**. It says, *“For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus, so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”* One of the ways we glorify God is through *“on voice”* that reflects the harmony and unity that is in Christ.

Having the same goals, the same vision, the same values, the same unwavering faith and the same direction enables believers to glorify God with one voice. The key is in **verse 5** where it says, *“...be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus.”* The harmony and unity that God desires to see amongst His people is provided through the person of Jesus Christ. Therefore, in spite of differing views, we are still to continue in harmony and unity with one another. That means we may need to agree to disagree at times. We are not to major on the minors. We are not to make mountains out of molehills. When we walk by the Spirit, then we walk and talk as Jesus would if He were.

When the Spirit of God is working in individual hearts, then the collective body of believers will be united in harmony with one voice focused on one person, Jesus Christ, praising Him, worshiping Him, serving Him and glorifying Him. As the apostle Paul stated in **Philippians 2:2**, “...*make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.*” Paul would add in **Romans 15:6**, “...*with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

The second example of how we glorify God through what we say is found in **2 Corinthians 4:15**. It says, “*For all things are for your sakes, so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God.*” Glory is given to God by His people praising and thanking Him when someone receives His grace.

Paul poured himself into the Corinthian church. He spent eighteen months in Corinth ministering the Word of God. He wrote two long letters to the church, more than any other church. He wanted to see them live fruitful lives of righteousness. He wanted to see the gospel of grace spread through their efforts. However, the reason Paul poured himself into the Corinthian church was not only for their sakes and not only that the grace of God would spread to more and more people, but so that God would be glorified. Paul wanted the church to have such a heart for God and for the gospel of grace that they would abound with praise and thanksgiving when they heard that someone received the grace of God. When a person receives the gift of salvation, eternal life and enters into a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ we should give glory to God.

Like Paul and like the church at Corinth, we all should have the same goal. That goal is for more and more people to abound with thanksgiving and praise to the glory of God when someone responds to the grace of God.

The third way that we bring glory to God is through what we say is found in **Philippians 2:9-11**. We are told, “*For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*” When we proclaim that Jesus is Lord, God is glorified.

There is certainly a time coming where all of mankind will see Jesus for who He is in all of His glory. Every knee will bow on earth and in heaven, and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord to the glory of God. In **Romans 14:9** we are told, “*For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.*” Jesus is the Lord of all creation. He is our Creator and our Redeemer and therefore, our Sovereign Master and Lord. He is the Lord of lords and the King of kings. All dominion is His forever and ever. When we come to that place where we proclaim with our lips and demonstrate through our lives that He is our personal Lord, then we bring Him all the glory.

Read **Revelation 5:9-14**. In that passage we see a new song that will be sung around the throne of God as all the angles in heaven and all of God’s creation worships Jesus, the Lamb of God, and proclaims His Lordship. Let us recognize today that Jesus is the One who has dominion forever and ever. He is our personal Lord, Savior and King. The greatest honor that we will ever have in this life and the life to come is to bring glory to God the Father and to God the Son.

GOD IS GLORIFIED BY WHAT WE DO

What we do in life brings glory to God. That is our purpose for being here. In **Matthew 5:14-16**, we are told, *“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”* Notice that we *“are the light of the world.”* Jesus did not say we could be, or should be the light of the world, but rather we are! Therefore, we are expected to glorify God by what we do and by the way we do it, so others will glorify Him as well.

The key phrase is in **verse 16**, where it says: *“in such a way.”* It is not just letting our light shine that is important, but it is the way we let it shine that is important. What is this light that Jesus is referring to? According to this passage it is our good works – what we do for God. Again it is not just what we do for God, but the way we do it. According to **Ephesians 5:8-10**, there should be goodness, righteousness and truth that comes from us doing good works for God.

Sometimes we do a very good work for God with a very bad attitude. Paul had to write to the church in Philippi and tell them in **Philippians 2:14-16**, *“Do all things without grumbling or disputing; so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain.”* We should all circle the phrase in **verse 14** that says, *“Do all things without grumbling or disputing.”* We have a responsibility to *“do all things”* in a way that will cause others to glorify God, and when we grumble and argue it takes people’s attention off of God and puts it on ourselves.

We should go about doing good works for God in a calm, composed, peaceful and quite manner without grumbling. We should go about doing good works for God without engaging in heated discussions along the way, or arguing with people, or locking horns with people – so to speak. We must have the right heart attitude in what we do for Jesus so the Father is glorified.

I used to think I had good reasons to gripe and complain to people, and argue with people, especially in the workplace until I heard a preacher by the name of David Ring. David Ring was born with cerebral palsy. He was orphaned at the age of fourteen and no where to call home. He experienced constant pain, enormous physical challenges, public humility and constant discouragement. As David Ring testifies, everything seemed hopeless until he began a relationship with Jesus Christ. Today he lives his life to the glory of God. He lets his light shine sharing his story in such a way that others glorify God because of him. David Ring has preached several life changing sermons. One that I shall never forget is entitled *“Thou Shalt Not Bellyache.”* Belly-aching never brings glory to God only attention to ourselves. Keep in mind, there is to be something that comes from our good works for God and from the way we do our good works for God that causes others to glorify God.

The second thing we do that brings God the glory is found in **John 15:8**. Jesus said, *“My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.”* We glorify God when we bear much fruit. Bearing fruit can refer to several things. It includes being involved in the process of leading others to a place where they will receive Jesus Christ as their

personal Savior and Lord, receiving God's forgiveness and eternal life with Him. Bearing fruit includes manifesting in our lives the fruit of the Spirit, which is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (**Galatians 5:22-23**). Bearing fruit can also include the praises and thanksgiving we give to God, living godly lives, our financial gifts that are used for His work, and our good works for God that brings glory to God.

The third thing we do that brings glory to God is found in **Romans 4:19-21**. It says, in reference to Abraham, ***"Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform."*** We glorify God when we demonstrate a strong unwavering faith in God and in what God says.

We see Abraham's faith in **Genesis 17:1-27** when God made him a promise. God promised that his wife Sarah would give him a son even though Abraham was about a hundred years old and Sarah was ninety years old.

We see Abraham's faith when God asked him to sacrifice his son Isaac as a burnt offering in **Genesis 22:1-19**. As Abraham took his son up the mountain to sacrifice him as a burnt offering he told his servants in **Genesis 22:5**, ***"we will worship and return."*** When Isaac asked his dad where the Lamb was for the offering Abraham told him in **Genesis 22:8**, ***"God will provide for Himself the Lamb for the burnt offering."*** Abraham demonstrated a strong unwavering faith in what God said. God had already said that through his son Isaac there would come a multitude of descendants more numerous than the stars in heaven and the sand on the sea shore. We see Abraham's faith in **Hebrews 11:17-19** when Abraham believed that if necessary God would raise Isaac from the dead to fulfill His promise.

A faith that is strong and unwavering builds over time as we walk in obedience with God according to God's Word. As our faith grows in strength, when we come to that place where we have no doubts that God will do what He said He will do, then God is glorified through that faith.

The fourth thing we do that brings God the glory is in **Romans 15:7**. It says, ***"Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God."*** We glorify God when we accept one another as Jesus accepted us. When a person puts their faith in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and Lord we are to look past their past. Instead, we are to look at their potential in Christ. We are to accept them as Jesus would – a born again child of God, His Bride, a redeemed reconciled eternal member of God's family. This brings glory to God.

The fifth thing we do that brings God the glory is found in **1 Corinthians 6:18-20**. We are told, ***"Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body."*** We glorify God when we flee immorality. Make no mistake about it. Our bodies are to be holy vessels. As the apostle Peter said in **1 Peter 1:14-16**, ***"As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in***

all your behavior; because it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy.’” I suggest you circle the words in **verse 15**, *“In all your behavior.”*

If we are going to glorify God, we will flee immorality. We will run from anything that would stir the body to unholy lusts. As believers in Jesus Christ we are moved to live holy lives because the Holy Spirit lives in us. The third person of the Godhead lives in us. We often think of the church building as God’s sanctuary – His holy place, but it is not. We are the temple of God. We are His holy sanctuary and we should keep it holy, separated from the lusts of the world.

We have been bought with a price, and that price was the blood of Jesus poured out upon the cross. He bought us, He owns us, and we have an obligation to glorify Him by keeping His property holy.

The sixth thing we do that brings God the glory is found in **2 Corinthians 1:20**. We are told, *“For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.”* We glorify God when we declare and uphold the promises of God. Every promise that God has given, to everyone who has put their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, will be fulfilled. To God they are already yes! As believers we may ask:

- God, do I have eternal life? His answer is yes.
- Will I inherit Your kingdom? His answers is yes.
- Is every one of my sins forgiven, past, present and future through Christ? His answers is yes.
- Will I live even though I die? His answers is yes.
- Can I have fellowship with You, right here, right now, because of Jesus? His answers is yes.
- Do I share in Your divine nature? His answer is yes.

Because of God’s answers regarding His promise, then we can say Amen to the glory of God. We declare them, accept them and hold on to them for the glory of God.

The seventh thing we do that brings God the glory is found in **1 Peter 4:10-11**. It says, *“As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”* We glorify God when we serve one another using our spiritual gifts. Every person who has placed their faith in Jesus Christ has the Holy Spirit dwelling within them. The Holy Spirit then gives us spiritual gifts and empowers us to use those gifts in serving one another. There are 22 spiritual gifts listed in the Bible (see Appendix #1). These are besides our talents. We all have at least one spiritual gift to use in serving one another, building up the church in unity and in bringing God the glory. In **verse 11** you should circle the phrase *“in all things.”* The purpose driving everything we do in life is to bring glory to God.

God created us, redeemed us through His Son, lives in us by His Spirit and equips us by His Word to accomplish His work for His glory. Therefore, as we are told in **1 Corinthians 10:31**, *“...Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”*

APPENDIX #1

SPIRITUAL GIFTS IN PERSPECTIVE

Note: The following is a list of all the Spiritual Gifts mentioned in the Bible.

GROUPING OF GIFTS	PRIMARY FUNCTION IN MINISTRY
<p>SPECIAL GIFTS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apostles (1 Corinthians 12:28 & Ephesians 4:11) 2. Prophets (1 Corinthians 12:28 & Ephesians 4:11) 3. Evangelists (Ephesians 4:11) 4. Pastor-Teachers (Ephesians 4:11) 	<p>EQUIPPING the saints for ministry.</p> <p>“...For the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12).</p>
<p>SPEAKING GIFTS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prophecy (Romans 12:6-8,13 & 1 Corinthians 12:8-10) 2. Teaching (Romans 12:6-8, 13 & 1 Corinthians 12:28) 3. Exhortation (Romans 12:6-8, 13) 4. Word of Wisdom (1 Corinthians 12:8-10) 5. Word of Knowledge (1 Corinthians 12:8-10) 	<p>PROCLAIMING the message of God.</p> <p>“Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).</p>

GROUPING OF GIFTS	PRIMARY FUNCTION IN MINISTRY
<p>SERVING GIFTS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Serving (Romans 12:6-8, 13 & 1 Peter 4:9-11) 2. Helps (1 Corinthians 12:28) 3. Leadership (Romans 12:6-8, 13) 4. Administration (1 Corinthians 12:28) 5. Giving (Romans 12:6-8, 13) 6. Showing mercy (Romans 12:6-8, 13) 7. Discerning of spirits (1 Corinthians 12:8-10) 8. Faith (1 Corinthians 12:8-10) 9. Hospitality (Romans 12:6-8, 13 & 1 Peter 4:9-11) 	<p>PERFORMING the work of God</p> <p>“...Whoever serves, is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies;...” (1 Peter 4:11).</p>
<p>SIGN GIFTS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tongues (1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28) 2. Interpretation of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:8-10) 3. Miracles (1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28) 4. Healing (1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28) 	<p>CONFIRMING the authority of God.</p> <p>“Therefore they spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who was testifying to the word of grace, granting that signs and wonders be done by their hands” (Acts 14:3).</p>

WHEN EACH BELIEVER EXERCISES THEIR GIFT...

1. The whole church is built up (Ephesians 4:12, 16).
2. Each believer discovers a place and function of importance (1 Corinthians 12:14-24).
3. Individual believers are established and encouraged (Romans 1:11-12).
4. Each individual is equipped to minister (Ephesians 4:11-12).
5. The church becomes effective for the common good (1 Corinthians 12:7).
6. The church grows (Ephesians 4:16).
7. Jesus Christ is glorified (1 Peter 4:11).
8. Believers become living evidence for God’s existence (Matthew 5:16).