



What We Must Do

Mark 8:34-38

There is a word that is not a _____ word, but many people don't like to hear it because it demands so much of them. What is that word? It is the word "_____" and it means there is no _____. Life is filled with choices, but some things are _____. You must have water and air and food if you want to live physically, and you must follow the _____ if you want to live eternally. The word "must" means something is a _____ or spiritual necessity. We have a _____ whether we'll serve God; but once we decide to serve the Lord, we obligate ourselves _____. Jesus said, "If you _____ me, you will keep my _____" (John 14:15). Christ has some _____ for us to be obedient, but that obedience arises out of _____ and devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus came to earth on a _____ to save souls (Luke 19:10; John 3:17; 1 Timothy 1:15). The coming of Jesus was not an accident; He's not simply another great moral teacher; He came to be our _____.

Saving mankind from sin was not an _____ task. Jesus came to help us all find forgiveness, but forgiveness was not His only _____. He had a much grander plan; He wanted to _____ us inside and out (Titus 2:14). The kind of _____ that our Savior desired did not come cheaply; He had to _____ Himself; it was necessary, it was a must! (Matthew 16:21-23).

We should not imagine that as Christians, the Lord Jesus was the _____ one who must do the Father's will; we too, have things we _____ do. The _____ is not a cafeteria from which we can select what we want and ignore the rest. God expects those who love Him to _____ all of Jesus' commands (Matthew 28:20; James 2:10). It does little _____ to say that we keep one commandment while we disobey another.

What does God _____ of us?

First, we must believe in God and confess our faith in Christ if we are to _____ the Lord (Hebrews 11:6). The Scriptures say that Jesus is _____ of a kind; that no one else can _____ us (Acts 4:10, 12).

Second, the Lord demands that his people _____ of their sins. Repentance is a _____ of heart that leads to a _____ of life (Acts 17:30-31).

Third, the person who loves the Lord must be _____ of water and the Spirit (John 3:5-7). Every ancient writer who spoke of this passage understood it to speak of _____. The Lord Jesus said baptism is a _____ to enter the kingdom of God. It is amazing that some regard love, and faith, and repentance as necessary to _____, but say baptism is not necessary. The same _____ that requires faith also requires baptism (Mark 16:16). Some argue, "It doesn't say that the one who _____ baptized is condemned." Yes, it doesn't say anything about baptism in the _____ clause. The person who believes has every _____ to be baptized, but a disbeliever has no reason. The believer knows at the _____ of his baptism he comes into contact with the death of Christ in the blood (Romans 6:3); he knows that he _____ the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38); and he is _____ by the blood of Jesus (1 Peter 3:21). The New Testament never _____ of an unbaptized Christian. If we _____ the Lord, let's do what He says.



Once we become Christians

We should consider how we _____ the Lord. Some think God ought to be _____ with anything that we offer to Him, but God _____ a certain type of worship from His people (John 4:23-24). True worship, the kind of worship God desires and requires, has two qualities: it _____ be in spirit and it _____ be in truth. To worship in spirit means that it comes from the _____ and is genuine. To worship in truth means that it must be done according to the _____ of the Lord in Scripture.

As Christians we must also think about _____ (1 John 4:19-21; John 13:34-35). We must _____ our love for one another by helping each other, by giving preference to one another, and by forgiving each other.

God requires us to keep ourselves _____ from sin (Romans 8:12-13; 1 Peter 3:10-12).

If we _____ to come after Jesus, we too must deny ourselves, and take up our crosses daily, and follow Him (Mark 8:34-38). When we become Christians, we belong to the Lord; we become His _____. We have to say _____ to our desires and concentrate on the Lord's _____ for our lives. Like Jesus, we say, "not my _____ but Thine be done."

We cannot _____ Jesus Christ, our Lord. You and I one day will _____ the Lord and have to give an account for our lives; at Judgment we have no _____ (Hebrews 9:27; 2 Corinthians 5:10). We must _____ to Jesus Christ and what is written in the New Testament (Hebrews 4:12-13). For this reason, the Bible urges us, "Therefore we _____ pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?" (Hebrews 2:1-3).