



APPNOTES

Date: March 4-8, 2019

Series: Elijah

Philippians 3:7-10 Take a moment to think about your favorite possessions when you were a kid. Maybe a bicycle or a doll. What about now? Is it the latest iPhone? Do you have the most expensive house on the block? Do you find yourself becoming too focused on your money and your possessions? Would you be willing to throw it all away and have nothing? Paul explains in Philippians 3:7-10 that he would give up all of his gains in this life for the sake of Christ. He considers his things garbage so he may gain Christ. Paul put possessions in a far second next to knowing God. The next time you find yourself obsessing over the latest car or how much stuff you have, take a moment to thank God for what you have. More than that, understand the peace and joy that are yours through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Make the choice to put God first.

Psalms 135:15-18 When talking about idols in the Bible what do you think they looked like? Some looked like animals, others like humans. When talking about idols in today's time what do you picture? Things like social media or even an actual person can be an idol. An idol is anything or anyone that takes your focus away from God. You may be committing idolatry and not even know you are. Take a moment to think about any current idols (distractions) you may have in your life right now. Then think about how you can change your actions and worship only the Lord. Make it a goal for the next month to get rid of an idol that is standing in your way. He is the only One worthy of our worship.

Matthew 16:24-26 Has anyone ever told you that nothing in life is free? Everything costs either your time, money, or sometimes both. Following Jesus doesn't cost anything, like admission to a theme park, but it does require your time and effort, and perhaps your bank account won't be as large. Jesus says in Matthew 16:24, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." Pursuing other idols costs you something, your future in heaven eternally with the Man Who sacrificed

his life for you, as well as a lack of peace in this life. This week take the extra time to speak with God. Accept the forgiveness of your sin that God gives through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Let Him know you are following Him and put Him before everything else in your life.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 I read recently that the reason we love to sing in the shower is because our voices reverberate off the tile and bath surround. It makes our voices sound fuller and stronger. Do you find yourself singing in the shower or in the car? Do you ever take time to sing God's praises during this time? Christ died on the cross for us and gave us eternal life. I think eternal life in heaven deserves some songs of joy. You have so much to be thankful for. The next time you are in the car I challenge you to play your favorite worship song and belt it out! No one can hear you, but God can. He loves to hear you sing praise to Him. It doesn't matter how well you can sing, He loves the sound of your voice! Let your praise reverberate in heaven.

Romans 12:1-2 When was the last time you stopped to thank and praise God? Romans 12:1-2 is a great verse to live your life by. "I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your body as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God-this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the patterns of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." God knew that there would be changes and challenges that His followers would face. He is challenging us to be above what everyone else is doing and to be the light for others. Make an effort this week to worship God right when you wake up. Tomorrow, when you open your eyes, immediately thank God for having you see another day. This will help keep God on the front of your mind and live more for Him that day.

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