



# The Voice Of Truth

A weekly publication of the

## Hillcrest church of Christ

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### Life Is a Sermon

By Jimmy Pettigrew

“Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel” (Philippians 1:27). The “conversation” (manner of life, ASV) of the Christian is to be “as becometh the gospel”. The manner of life of the Christian will be either a real asset or a significant liability to the cause of Christ.

The conduct of the Christian should “adorn” the doctrine of God (Titus 2:10). “Adorn” means to beautify. The life of a Christian reveals the beauty of God’s will and way. There is nothing more impressive than the influence of a pure Christian life. It is the most overpowering, undeniable argument for Christianity. The Christian must, by his life, show the world what a Christian is! But, how do we do this?

1. By presenting our bodies a living sacrifice. Give yourself completely to God (Romans 12:1; Matthew 16:24; Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 5:15).
2. We must be holy, separate, and distinct. To be holy is to be called out, set apart to the Master’s use, without blemish (1 Peter 1:15; Hebrews 12:14; 2 Corinthians 7:1).
3. Be not fashioned according to this world (Romans 12:2). Don’t let the world decide what you are going to be like (1 John 2:15-17). Christians should guard against losing their identity in the world (becoming worldly); rather, they are to influence the world to become Christ-like (John 17:15-19).
4. Being God’s obedient child. Christians are called “children of obedience” (1 Peter 1:14). The Christian lives a life of obedience. “Behold, to obey is better . . .” (1 Samuel 15:22).
5. We have a desire for God’s word (1 Peter 2:2). The Christian grows or dies spiritually (Hebrews 5:12-14).
6. Let’s Christ be the pattern for life (1 Peter 2:21). Christ left us an example that we should follow in His steps. The life He lived is not just to be admired, talked about, or sung about, but it is to be followed. Christ is the perfect pattern.
7. Love one another (1 Peter 1:22; 3:8). This love will be the sign to the world that we are disciples of Jesus (John 13:35).
8. Christians are the “salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13), their speech should be graceful, preserving (prevent corruption) (Ephesians 4:29), and loving (Ephesians 4:15). Such things as lying (Revelation 21:8), whispering and backbiting (Romans 1:29-30), and shameful speaking (Colossians 3:8) reflect on one’s

heart (Matthew 12:34). “Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer each one” (Colossians 4:6).

The “conversation” (manner of life, ASV) of the Christian is to be “as becometh the gospel”. The manner of life of the Christian will be either a real asset or a significant liability to the cause of Christ. What’s your manner of life!

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### **The Greatest Of All**

My greatest loss – the loss of my soul.

My greatest object – to glorify God.

My greatest goal – to win souls for Christ.

My greatest prize – a crown of glory.

My greatest joy – the joy of salvation.

My greatest inheritance – Heaven and its glories.

My greatest victory – victory over death through Christ.

My greatest neglect – to neglect the great salvation.

My greatest crime – to reject Christ.

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**Small deeds done  
Are better than great deeds planned.**

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### **Sunday Morning with the Seven Dwarfs**

**Sleepy** – “Oh, I’m too tired! That party last night was late, too long. I didn’t get much rest. What if I nod off in Bible Class? I think I’ll stay home.”

**Dopey** – “I don’t know whether I’ll go or not. I want to go, but I just don’t know.”

**Sneezy** – “I don’t feel too good and besides, I may give my hay fever to someone; worse still, I may catch something from someone. I’ll stay in today.”

**Bashful** – “I might not know everybody in class. I hate to meet so many people. It’s just too much to expect of anyone.”

**Grumpy** – “I don’t like the teacher and besides, we’re studying an uninteresting subject and some of those people in the class, well . . .”

**Doc** – “What a gorgeous day! It’s a shame to waste such a great day for golf! I could miss just this one Sunday.”

**Happy** – “Smile, brethren, and be happy and thankful for the opportunity to go to Bible class and to learn more about God and His will for us. Smile, and make someone else happier as you go to Bible class with a smile on your face.”

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### **What Must I Do To Be Saved?**

**Hear and Learn** - Rom. 10:17; John 6:45; 17:3

**Believe** - Heb. 11:6; John 6:29; 8:24

**Repent** - Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30

**Confess the Lord** - Matt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10

**Be Baptized** - Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27; 1 Pet. 3:21

**Continue in the Apostles' Teaching** - Acts 2:42; 2 Tim. 3:14-17