

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence. ~ 1 John 3:16-19

Is it possible for one idea to change the world?

- ✓ "Jesus Christ laid down his life for us."
- ✓ "And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers."

A Christian should be a striking likeness of Jesus Christ. You have the Gospels of Christ, beautifully written; but the best life of Christ is His living biography, written out in the words and action of His people. ~ Charles H. Spurgeon

Don't Miss The JOY!

1. Don't miss the joy of _____ boldly.

- a. Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.
- b. Let our love be filled with acts of social justice.

2. Don't miss the joy of _____ often.

When the LORD brought back the captives to Zion, we were like men who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

Psalm 126:1-3

Of all people, _____ should be people whose days are accompanied by joy and laughter.

3. Don't miss the JOY of living _____.

Let's face it. Most of us have a giving problem because we have a _____ problem. We live _____ our means.

4. Don't miss the JOY of giving _____.

We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is...contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously...Share with God's people who are in need. ~ Romans 12:6,8b,13a

One of the most misunderstood areas of life is the area of giving, particularly the question of how God wants us to handle our money. The Bible is very clear about this:

Tell people to use their money to do _____. They should be rich in good works and should give happily to those in need, always being ready to share with others whatever God has given them. By doing this they will be storing up real treasure for themselves in heaven—it is the only safe investment for eternity! And they will be living a fruitful Christian life down here as well" (1 Timothy 6:18-19).

These verses make it clear that money is to be used, not _____. You are to use money, and you are to love people. If you get that reversed, you are in trouble because if you start loving money, you will start using people to get more money. Money has a tremendous potential for good if you use it as God intended. It is a tool that the Bible tells us to use for good in order to fulfill God's purposes for our lives.

- ✓ The scriptural challenge to us today is to take a vow of _____.
- ✓ This is the practice of actively seeking out opportunities to give of my resources so that others can be blessed and the Kingdom of God advanced.

5. Don't miss the JOY of _____ daily.

Encouragement carries with it the sincere intent to build up another person; To lift them from where they are to a better place. This is the art of speaking into the life of another individual for the purpose of their being _____ in the faith so that they won't lose heart and settle for less than God's best.

6. Don't miss the JOY of practicing _____.

- a. Hospitality is the pathway to deeper relationships, effective mentoring and life to life _____.

Don't miss the JOY November 29, 2009