

HONORING GOD

With Healthy Living

Matthew 7:17 A healthy tree produces good fruit, and an unhealthy tree produces bad fruit.

18 A good tree can't produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can't produce good fruit.

19 So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire.

20 Yes, the way to identify a tree or a person is by the kind of fruit that is produced.

21 "Not all people who sound religious are really godly. They may refer to me as 'Lord,' but they still won't enter the Kingdom of Heaven. The decisive issue is whether they obey my Father in heaven.

Ephesians 4:11 He is the one who gave these gifts to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers.

12 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ,

13 until we come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature and full grown in the Lord, measuring up to the full stature of Christ.

14 Then we will no longer be like children, forever changing our minds about what we believe because someone has told us something different or because someone has cleverly lied to us and made the lie sound like the truth.

15 Instead, we will hold to the truth in love, becoming more and more in every way like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

16 Under his direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

A Healthy Christian Serves The Church

12 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ,

1 Corinthians 14:12 Since you are so eager to have spiritual gifts, ask God for those that will be of real help to the whole church.

A Healthy Christian Gets Along With Other Christians

13 until we come to such unity in our faith...

John 13:35 Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

1 John 4:19 We love each other as a result of his loving us first.

20 If someone says, "I love God," but hates a Christian brother or sister, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we have not seen?

21 And God himself has commanded that we must love not only him but our Christian brothers and sisters, too.

A Healthy Christian Is Committed To Learning

13 ... and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature and full grown in the Lord, measuring up to the full stature of Christ.

2 Peter 1:5 So make every effort to apply the benefits of these promises to your life. Then your faith will produce a life of moral excellence. A life of moral excellence leads to knowing God better.

6 Knowing God leads to self-control. Self-control leads to patient endurance, and patient endurance leads to godliness.

7 Godliness leads to love for other Christians, and finally you will grow to have genuine love for everyone.

8 The more you grow like this, the more you will become productive and useful in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A Healthy Christian Doesn't Act Like A Child

14 Then we will no longer be like children,...

1 Corinthians 3:2 I had to feed you with milk and not with solid food, because you couldn't handle anything stronger. And you still aren't ready,

3 for you are still controlled by your own sinful desires. You are jealous of one another and quarrel with each other. Doesn't that prove you are controlled by your own desires? You are acting like people who don't belong to the Lord.

Hebrews 5:12 You have been Christians a long time now, and you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things a beginner must learn about the Scriptures. You are like babies who drink only milk and cannot eat solid food.

13 And a person who is living on milk isn't very far along in the Christian life and doesn't know much about doing what is right.

14 Solid food is for those who are mature, who have trained themselves to recognize the difference between right and wrong and then do what is right.

A Healthy Christian Is Consistent In What They Believe

14 ...forever changing our minds about what we believe because someone has told us something different or because someone has cleverly lied to us and made the lie sound like the truth.

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word of God. Be persistent, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching.

3 For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to right teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever they want to hear.

4 They will reject the truth and follow strange myths.

A Healthy Christian Is Constantly Growing Their Walk

15 Instead, we will hold to the truth in love, becoming more and more in every way like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

Luke 8:14 The thorny ground represents those who hear and accept the message, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the cares and riches and pleasures of this life. And so they never grow into maturity.

15 But the good soil represents honest, good-hearted people who hear God's message, cling to it, and steadily produce a huge harvest.

A Healthy Christian Is Connected To The Body

16 Under his direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

Romans 12:4 Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function,

5 so it is with Christ's body. We are all parts of his one body, and each of us has different work to do. And since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.