

HOW TO MAKE LIFE WORK

Text: Matt. 5:3-10.

INTRODUCTION:

A. Have you ever heard, or uttered, some of these expressions?

1. "Nothing ever seems to go right for me."
2. "Life is just one problem after another."
3. "Nothing ever works for me."
4. "I can't win for losing."

B. These are common expressions:

1. They may merely express frustrations of the moment.
2. Sadly, for some, they are constantly expressing a way of life.
3. What they are saying is "Life for me just isn't working."

C. In every direction we see people trying to make life work:

1. Drugs and alcohol.
2. New age movement.
3. Adultery and fornication.

D. Life is a precious gift from God that must be used and enjoyed.

1. We have but one chance to make it a success.
2. It is lived one day at a time.

BODY: HOW TO MAKE LIFE WORK:

I. WHY LIFE DOESN'T WORK FOR SOME PEOPLE:

A. They don't really know their purpose for living.

1. They know there must be something, but what?
2. Our purpose is to bring glory to God:

a. Rev. 4:11ff.

b. Ecc. 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all.

B. They are being blinded by the god of this world.

1. 1 Pet. 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.
2. James 1:13-17.

C. They are not following the directions in the "Owner's Manual"

1. 2 Tim. 3:15-17.
2. 2 Tim. 2:15 "Study to show thyself approved..."
3. We must learn and practice truth- Jn. 8:32 And you shall know the truth..."

D. Love of the world.

1. 1 Jn. 5:19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.
2. Col. 1:11-14.
3. The world can never satisfy the needs of the soul.

E. Try to guide their own steps.

1. It is not in man that walketh to direct his own steps. Jer. 10:23
2. Many are selfish and want things their way.

F. Many are following the crowd.

1. They follow a multitude to do evil.
2. "Everyone else is doing it."

G. They, this is the major problem that all the above are based upon, are out of step with their maker: GOD.

1. Gen. 1:26-27.
2. Jn. 17:3.
3. Life will never work until man is reconciled with his creator.

4. Sin has separated man from God- Isa. 59:1-2. **Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.**

H. Sadly, a few don't care if their life is working, Sin has blinded their eyes.

II. HOW TO MAKE YOUR LIFE WORK:

A. Begin with the Beatitudes:

1. This is a list of successful living principles for all ages.
2. Matt. 5:1-12.

B. Get to know your God and His will for your life.

1. Rom. 1:19-22 know His power.
2. Jn. 17:3 know His attributes see Jn. 4:24; 3:16.

C. Realize that you were created for a purpose.

1. This purpose is revealed in the word of God.
2. It is more important than any other truths you may know.

D. Admit that life has its burdens:

1. Job 14:1-2 "Man who is born of woman Is of few days and full of trouble. He comes forth like a flower and fades away; He flees like a shadow and does not continue.
2. They that live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer.

E. Acknowledge that all things are working for your good.

1. Rom. 8:28.
2. This is more than a proof text to encourage people.
3. It is a real key to life, and making it work.

F. Use God's power for the journey.

1. Eph. 3:20

2. It is given to us in Christ.

G. Admit that there are some things that you can't do anything about.

1. It is not the end of the world!

2. Life is real, challenging, but very possible.

H. Accept what Jesus promised.

1. Jn. 10:10 abundant life now.

2. Key JN. 14:6 "I am the way..."

3. Matt. 16:24.

CONCLUSION:

A. Jesus invested in the possibilities of your life working.

1. Matt. 26:28.

2. He believes in you possibilities.

B. In this lesson we have noticed two major points:

1. Why life doesn't work for some people.

2. How to make life work.

C. Do you want your life to work? To work in every situation?

D. The choice is yours, the day to begin is today.