

# TEN PRINCIPLES FOR BEING DIFFERENT BY DESIGN

## 1. God sees and cares about the condition of our hearts (inward)

**1 Timothy 1:19** Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:

**1 Samuel 16:7** But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for *the LORD seeth* not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

## 2. God sees and cares about the condition of our lifestyles (outward)

**Romans 13:13** Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

**1 Thessalonians 2:12** That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.

### **1 Thessalonians 4:3-4**

**3** For this is the will of God, *even* your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: **4** That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;

**1 Thessalonians 4:7** For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

## 3. God wants us to care about both our hearts and our lifestyles (both)

**1 Corinthians 9:25** And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

**Colossians 1:10** That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

**1 Timothy 4:12** Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

## 4. God is not pleased with mere outward conformity to Christ

**Mark 7:6** He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with *their* lips, but their heart is far from me.

**Matthew 15:8** This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with *their* lips; but their heart is far from me.

## 5. God desires outward change to be produced in the heart first

**Ezekiel 36:26** A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

**Philippians 1:6** Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

## 6. When God changes my heart, His changes will be outwardly visible

**Galatians 5:22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

**John 13:15** For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

**James 2:18** Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

## 7. God offers His power to change my inward and outward life

**Philippians 2:13** For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

**Colossians 1:29** Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

**Ephesians 5:18** And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

**Ephesians 3:20** Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

## 8. An outward Christianity driven by an inward sincerity is pleasing to God

**Hebrews 11:6** But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

**2 Timothy 2:4** No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

## 9. A distinctively different life is foundational to following Christ

**Titus 2:14** Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

**1 Peter 2:9** But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

**10. Our witness in this world depends upon our Christ-like lifestyle**

**2 Corinthians 5:20** Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.