

LIVING *for* GOD EVERY DAY

SEVEN DAILY HABITS
OF A SPIRIT-FILLED CHRISTIAN



A DAILY WALK WITH JESUS. A LIFE THAT HONORS HIM.

A HEART THAT TRUSTS HIM.



THE NORTH JERSEY UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
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Living for God is more than a decision we make at an altar or an experience we have when we first come to Christ. It is a daily walk with Jesus Christ. Over the years, I have watched people begin their Christian journey with great enthusiasm, but I have also learned that spiritual strength is developed through the simple, consistent practices of trusting God, praying, obeying His Word, walking in the Holy Ghost, and making choices that honor Him. We will not always understand what God is doing, and we will not always know what tomorrow holds, but we can learn to trust the One who does. My desire in sharing these principles is to help every believer—especially those who are beginning their walk with God—develop a strong biblical foundation that will sustain them through temptation, trials, disappointment, blessing, and every season of life. Christianity is not simply something we believe; it is a life we live, one day at a time, in faithful dependence upon Jesus Christ.

— **Pastor Gary Evensen**

1. Begin Each Day Depending on God, Not Yourself

The Christian life begins by recognizing that we cannot save ourselves, guide ourselves, or sustain ourselves apart from God. From the moment we obey the gospel through repentance, baptism in the name of Jesus Christ, and the infilling of the Holy Ghost, we learn that our strength is found in Him alone.

Solomon wrote:

"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding."

— Proverbs 3:5

Our natural tendency is to trust our own wisdom, feelings, and abilities. Yet God's thoughts are infinitely higher than ours.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD."

— Isaiah 55:8

Every day we must surrender our plans, ambitions, and opinions to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Genuine faith is not merely believing that God exists—it is depending upon Him in every circumstance.

2. Maintain a Life of Prayer and Communion with God

Trust is demonstrated through prayer. Prayer is more than presenting requests; it is daily fellowship with God. It is through prayer that we submit ourselves to His will, receive direction, and gain spiritual strength.

Scripture declares:

"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

— Proverbs 3:6

The believer understands that prayer is not optional. Jesus Himself prayed continually, providing our perfect example.

Morning, throughout the day, and before we rest at night, we should seek the presence of God. In prayer we worship Him, confess our faults, intercede for others, and allow His Spirit to mold our hearts. A church that prays is a powerful church, and a Christian who prays daily will not easily become spiritually cold.

3. Walk Daily in the Holy Ghost

God has not left His people to live the Christian life in their own strength. He has filled believers with His own Spirit.

The Holy Ghost is not merely an influence or an emotional experience. It is Jesus Christ dwelling within His people.

"I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you."

— John 14:18

The Holy Ghost convicts us, comforts us, teaches us, strengthens us, and empowers us to live a holy life.

As we pray and yield ourselves to Him each day, the Spirit produces His fruit within us and leads us into all truth. We must never ignore His convictions or resist His leading.

4. Pursue Holiness and Separate Yourself from Evil

The Christian life is not merely avoiding sin—it is pursuing holiness. Peter wrote:

"Be ye holy; for I am holy."

— 1 Peter 1:16

The Apostle Paul instructed believers:

"Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord."

— 2 Corinthians 6:17

Every day we must reject sinful attitudes, worldly influences, ungodly entertainment, immoral speech, and anything that dulls our sensitivity to God.

Holiness is not legalism. Holiness is love expressed through obedience. Because we belong to Jesus Christ, we desire for every area of our lives—our thoughts, words, appearance, conduct, and relationships—to glorify Him.

5. Submit Everything to the Authority of God's Word

Our culture changes continually, but the Word of God never changes.

The Bible is our absolute authority for doctrine, salvation, holiness, worship, and daily living.

Jeremiah warned:

"The heart is deceitful above all things..."

— Jeremiah 17:9

Our feelings cannot be trusted above God's Word.

Daily Bible reading, meditation, and faithful preaching continually correct our thinking and shape our lives.

As David declared:

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

— Psalm 119:11

The believer who remains grounded in Scripture will not easily be carried away by false doctrine or worldly philosophies.

6. Honor God First in Every Area of Life

Jesus Christ is not merely part of our lives—He is Lord of our lives.

We honor Him with our time, talents, finances, families, occupations, and decisions.

Solomon instructed:

"Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase."

— Proverbs 3:9

Giving faithfully is not purchasing God's blessings; it is an act of worship that demonstrates our trust in His provision.

Likewise, we honor God through faithful church attendance, submission to biblical pastoral leadership, involvement in the work of God's

kingdom, and serving others with humility.
Christ must always have first place.

7. Receive God's Correction and Rest in His Faithful Love

God's correction is evidence of His love.

"Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth."

— Hebrews 12:6

The Lord corrects us through His Word, the conviction of the Holy Ghost, godly preaching, spiritual leadership, and sometimes through life's circumstances.

Rather than resisting His correction, we should receive it with humility, knowing that our heavenly Father is shaping us into the image of Christ.

Even during trials, we rest in His promises.

Nothing can separate the obedient child of God from His love.

He is faithful when life is uncertain.

He is present when we feel alone.

He is working even when we cannot yet understand His purpose.

But in our desire to live by faith we must also understand:

Faith Is Not Presumption

One of the greatest misunderstandings about faith is the idea that faith means believing God will do whatever we want Him to do.

Biblical faith is not trying to convince God to bless our plans.

Biblical faith is trusting and obeying God's plans.

Many disappointments occur because people mistake their own desires for God's promises.

For example, a person may decide to purchase an expensive automobile or make a major financial commitment simply because they "have faith" that everything will work out. Yet if that decision was never directed by God and ignores biblical principles of wisdom and stewardship, it is not an act of faith—it is an act of presumption.

Faith never gives us permission to ignore wisdom.

Faith never contradicts Scripture.

Faith never excuses irresponsible decisions.

Jesus Himself demonstrated this principle. When Satan tempted Him to throw Himself from the pinnacle of the temple, quoting Scripture to suggest that God would protect Him, Jesus refused.

"Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God."

— Matthew 4:7

Jesus knew the difference between trusting His Father and testing His Father.

Likewise, we should not expect God to rescue us from decisions He never directed us to make.

The Bible teaches us to seek God's will before making major decisions.

"If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that."

— James 4:15

God often leads us through prayer, His Word, the conviction of the Holy Ghost, and wise, biblical counsel. He does not ask us to abandon wisdom; He asks us to submit our wisdom to His.

True faith says,

"Lord, if this is Your will, I will obey."

Presumption says,

"I have already decided what I want, and now I expect God to make it happen."

Faith follows God.

Presumption expects God to follow us.

The safest place a believer can live is in the center of God's will, walking in humble obedience and trusting Him to direct every step.

Conclusion

Living for God is not accomplished by human determination alone. It is a daily walk of faith, obedience, holiness, and surrender to Jesus Christ.

Each day we choose to trust Him, seek Him in prayer, walk in the Holy Ghost, obey His Word, pursue holiness, honor Him in every area of life, and receive His loving correction.

The same Lord who filled us with His Spirit will also keep us as we faithfully walk with Him until the day He returns.

"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy..."

— Jude 24

Lord Jesus,

Thank You for saving me and giving me the privilege of walking with You.

I know that I cannot live this Christian life in my own strength. Teach me to depend upon You each day rather than trusting in my own understanding.

Help me to be faithful in prayer and to make time for Your presence. Fill my heart continually with Your Spirit, and help me to recognize and obey the leading of the Holy Ghost.

Give me a love for Your Word. When my thoughts, feelings, or desires disagree with Scripture, give me the humility to surrender them to You.

Help me to live a holy life that brings honor to Your name. Guard my thoughts, my words, my attitudes, my relationships, and the choices I make. Show me anything in my life that does not please You, and give me the willingness to change.

Lord, I want You to be first in every area of my life. Direct my decisions, my finances, my family, my time, and my future.

When You correct me, help me not to resist You. Give me a teachable heart and help me remember that Your correction comes from Your love for me.

Teach me the difference between faith and presumption. Keep me from asking You to bless decisions that I have made without seeking Your will. Instead, help me to pray sincerely, **"Lord, if this is Your will, I will obey."**

When I do not understand what You are doing, help me trust You. When I am discouraged, strengthen me. When I am tempted, give me grace to stand. When I fall short, lead me quickly to repentance. Above all, keep my heart faithful to You.

I want to walk with You today, tomorrow, and every day that You give me, until the day I stand in Your presence.

**In the name of Jesus Christ,
Amen.**

YOU'RE INVITED!

The North Jersey United Pentecostal Church

We would love to have you join us!

Whether you are searching for a church home, beginning your walk with God, or simply desire to learn more about Jesus Christ and His Word, **there is a place for you here.**

Come experience heartfelt worship, biblical preaching and teaching, prayer, fellowship, and the presence of God.

WEEKLY SERVICES

SUNDAY WORSHIP

11:15 AM

MIDWEEK WORSHIP & THE WORD — ENGLISH

Wednesday • 8:00 PM

SERVICIO EN ESPAÑOL

Viernes • 8:00 PM

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Watch our services and Bible teaching on YouTube:

YouTube — @NJUPCINC

We hope to see you soon!