**Living like Jesus – Simplicity Habits**

*First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity – 1 Tim. 2: 1 -2*

**The habits of simplicity seek God’s kingdom and righteousness first then everything else will naturally follow in the proper time**

1. **Jesus habits of simplicity**

*And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn – Luke 2:7*

*And Jesus said, the foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head – Luke 9:58*

*When you have entered the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house that he enters. And you will say to the owner of the house, the Teacher says to you, where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples? And he will show you a large, furnished upper room, prepare it there. And they left and found everything just as He had told them; and they prepared the Passover – Luke 22: 10 -13*

*Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied there and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to Me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, the Lord has need of them, and immediately he will send them. – Matt. 21:2 -3*

*When they had crucified Him, they divided up His garments among themselves by casting lots – Matt. 27:35*

*And he took it down and wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid Him in a tomb cut into the rock, where no one had ever lain – Luke 23:53*

1. **Believer’s habits of simplicity**
2. Do not live in the present world setting your hope on possession & riches

*Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy – 1 Tim. 6:17*

1. Enjoy your life by walking with God

*Here is what I have seen to be good and fitting; to eat, to drink and enjoy oneself in all one’s labor in which he toils under the sun during the few years of his life which God has given him; for this is his reward – Eccl. 5:18*

1. You cannot serve God and money – possessions

*No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon – Luke 16:13*

1. Live in the world in a tranquil & quiet manner

*First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity – 1 Tim. 2: 1 -2*

1. Be rich toward God

*So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God Luke 12:21*

1. Beware of covetousness

*Take heed and beware of all covetousness; for a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions – Luke 12:15*

1. Riches are a strong temptation leading away from a life of faith in God

*Those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and hurtful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction – 1 Tim. 6:9*

1. **Steps to simplicity**
2. Do not love the world nor the things of the world
3. Live with contentment in what God provides for you
4. Refuse to seek greatness & prominence
5. Live by faith trusting in God to provide what you need – Matt. 6
6. Live a life of simplicity in a world of complexity by walking with God

*What does a man get in all his labor and in his striving with which he labors under the sun?*

*Because all his days his task is painful and grievous; even at night his mind does not rest. This too is vanity.*

*There is nothing better for a man than to eat and drink and tell himself that his labor is good. This also I have seen that it is from the hand of God.*

*For who can eat and who have enjoyment without Him?*

*For to a person who is good in His sight He has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, while to the sinner He has given the task of gathering and collecting so that he may give to the one who is good in God’s sight. This too is vanity and striving after wind*

*Eccl. 2:21 – 26*

*When Jesus heard this, He said to him, “One thing you still lack; sell all that you possess and distribute it to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven and come, follow Me.” – Luke 18:22*

*He was saying to them all, if anyone wished to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. for whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it. For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits himself? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My word, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He comes in His glory, and the glory of the Father and the holy angels – Luke 9: 23 -26*

1. **Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness – Matt. 6: 25 -33**

**When simplicity we cherish – A.G. Spangenberg**

When simplicity we cherish,  
then the soul is full of light;  
but that light will quickly vanish,  
when of Jesus we lose sight.

2 Those who Christ alone desiring,  
those whom nothing else can cheer  
but the joy of his inspiring,  
lending to his voice an ear;

3 who in Christ find greatest treasure  
and upon his grace depend;  
who but want to do his pleasure,  
just fulfilling his commands;

4 who to Jesus humbly cleaving,  
pay obedience to his word,  
who in closest union living  
with our Savior, Head, and Lord;

5 who in Jesus Christ abiding,  
and from self-dependence free,  
in none else but him confiding  
walk in true simplicity.

6 Those who are by Christ directed,  
trusting the Good Shepherd’s care,  
from all harm will be protected,  
and no danger need to fear.