

F. Y. C.

For Your Consideration

❖ JULY 2016 ❖



Ponder This

This mid-year issue contains four **Ponder This** articles, plus **Food for Thought**.

SPECIAL ISSUE

- ∞ Choose
- ∞ Being a Christian
- ∞ Continuing as a Christian
- ∞ Faith, Hope, Love

CHOOSE

The word 'choose' implies the use of judgment in taking one of several courses of action. We make choices every day. And the choices we make affect not only today, but the future as well. And our choices impact those around us: family, neighbors, co-workers, and especially brethren. Right choices benefit all concerned, bad choices hurt all concerned.

**Choose carefully,
choose wisely,
choose prayerfully.**

*Who is the man who fears the Lord? He will instruct
him in the way he should choose.*

Psalms 25:12

"And if it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Joshua 24:15

**FOOD
FOR
THOUGHT**

Money cannot buy one necessity for the soul.

Then He said to them, "Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions."

Luke 12:15

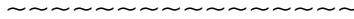
BEING A CHRISTIAN

Only three passages in the New Testament contain the word Christian.

. . . *the disciples were first called **Christians** in Antioch.*
Acts 11:26

*Agrippa replied to Paul, "In a short time you will persuade me to become a **Christian**."*
Acts 26:28

*But if anyone suffers as a **Christian**, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.*
1 Peter 4:16



INVOLVEMENT

Wearing the name Christian

involves being a disciple (learner and follower) of Christ.

Becoming a Christian

involves being convinced that Jesus is the Christ, the Savior of the world.

Being a Christian

involves glorifying God even while suffering.

Behaving as a Christian

involves being motivated by love for Jesus and others.

In all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, sound in speech which is beyond reproach, in order that the opponent may be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us.
Titus 2:7-8



THOUGHTS

One of the obvious facts about being a Christian –
you either function or fizzle.

The best way to convince others about the value of following Christ –
is to show them.

Satan is willing for anyone to profess Christian principles–
as long as they're not practiced.

FOOD
FOR
THOUGHT

What can you do to please your Heavenly Father?
Be kind to His children.

*Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as
God in Christ also has forgiven you.*

Ephesians 4:32

CONTINUING AS A CHRISTIAN

So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine."

John 8:31

* * *

In physics the continuing movement of an object is said to be affected by (among other things) resistance, obstacles, and diversion. These same three affect one "continuing as a Christian."

RESISTANCE

Fight against the opposition with faith and fortitude.

Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.

1 Peter 5:8-9

OBSTACLES

Do not let them hinder or cause you to stumble.

Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.

2 Peter 1:10-11

DIVERSIONS

Don't be sidetracked by worldly cares and riches.

"And others are the ones on whom seed was sown among the thorns; these are the ones who have heard the word, but the worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful."

Mark 4:18-19

Keep On Keeping On

If indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister.

Colossians 1:23

**FOOD
FOR
THOUGHT**

You cannot learn from your mistakes as long as you deny them.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

FAITH, HOPE, LOVE

*But now faith, hope, love, abide these three;
but the greatest of these is love.*

1 Corinthians 13:13

FAITH

One must believe in God to be saved.

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

Hebrews 11:6

HOPE

One's hope is based on faith in God.

For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

Romans 8:24-25

LOVE

One must love in order to know God.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

1 John 4:7-8



**Without love of God and love for one another, one's faith is vain,
and hope will not be realized.**

If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love it profits me nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

HAVE FAITH, HAVE HOPE, HAVE LOVE!

**FOOD
FOR
THOUGHT**

Being ignorant is not as shameful as being unwilling to learn.

Listen to counsel and accept discipline, that you may be wise the rest of your day.

Proverbs 19:20

F.Y.C. is a monthly publication by Ron Adams.

Bible references are from the NASB except where another translation is referenced.

Past Issues are archived at <http://ra10ar.com>

All rights reserved. © 2016