



# F. Y. C.

**For Your Consideration**

❖ APRIL 2017 ❖

## **Degrees of Obedience**

### **DO IT BECAUSE I HAVE TO**

Perform because it is required.

#### **MANDATORY**

*The heart is set against doing it.*

~~~~~

### **DO IT BECAUSE I OUGHT TO**

Perform because it is expected.

#### **OBLIGATED**

*The heart is not in doing it.*

~~~~~

### **DO IT BECAUSE I WANT TO**

Perform because it is desired.

#### **PRIVILEGE**

*The heart is fully involved.*

(Only this form of obedience is acceptable to the Savior.)

~~~~~

*But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed.*

Romans 6:17

*Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

2 Corinthians 9:7

*"... not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart."*

Ephesians 6:6

*But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.*

1 Timothy 1:5

**Truth must be known in the mind, accepted in the heart, and acted in life.**



## WORD STUDY

enhance your  
Bible knowledge

## SAINT

Greet every **saint** in Christ Jesus. The brethren who are with me greet you. All the **saints** greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Philippians 4:21-23

**SAINT: hagiasmos:** "sanctification," is used to indicate (a) separation to God, (b) the course of life befitting those so separated.

Sanctification is that relationship with God into which men enter by faith in Christ.

It is used in NT of the separation of the believer from evil things and ways.

This sanctification is God's will for the believer, and His purpose in calling him by the gospel.

It must be learned from God, as He teaches it by His Word.

It must be pursued by the believer, earnestly and undeviatingly.

**SAINTS: In the plural, as used of believers,** it designates all such and is not applied merely to persons of exceptional holiness, or to those who, having died, or were characterized by exceptional acts of saintliness.

– Vines Expository Dictionary

## SAINTS

**Christians in the New Testament are called saints.** (More than 60 times.)

... to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as **saints** ... Romans 1:7

... to the **saints** who are at Ephesus and who are faithful in Christ Jesus ... Ephesians 1:1

... to the **saints** and faithful brethren in Christ who are at Colossae ... Colossians 1:2

... to all the **saints** in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi... Philippians 1:1

... to the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been **sanctified** in Christ Jesus, **saints** by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours ... 1 Corinthians 1:2-3

**Christians (saints) in the New Testament sinned.** And Christians today sin. The letters to the church at Corinth dealt with their sins. And many other New Testament letters address the problem of sin.

*I am afraid that when I come again my God may humiliate me before you, and I may mourn over many of those who have **sinned** in the past and not repented of the impurity, immorality and sensuality which they have practiced.* 2 Corinthians 12:21

## PONDER THIS

In the Bible "sinner" is the term used to describe the fallen condition of men. And "saints" describes those who are separate from the world and joined to Christ. Is it incongruous to say "we (saints) are all sinners?" We all **were** sinners (cf. Romans 5:8), but we **have been** sanctified (set apart). We may "miss the mark" at times, but that does not change our holy calling. Thanks be to God that we have been **sanctified** by faith in Jesus!

... to those who have **been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ...** 1 Corinthians 1:2

## **'Make Someone's Day'**

To know that someone cares—  
**warms the heart.**

To hear words of comfort—  
**lifts one's spirit.**

To see a bright smiling face—  
**aids a cheerful countenance.**

To feel a pat on the back or a  
warm embrace—  
**strengthens one's resolve.**

*"... members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it."*

1 Corinthians 12:25-26

## **ONE OF LIFE'S PARADOXES A BLESSING IN DISGUISE**

I've seen it before, and it just may happen again. I haven't always got what I wanted. But, sometimes I'm glad that I didn't get it. Why? Because what I got instead was so much better. We don't always get what we want. And sometimes that's good, because we don't always know what is best.

*I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.*

Philippians 1:12-13 ESV

## **Introspection:**

*Contemplation of one's own thoughts, feelings, and sensations; self-examination.*

It needs to be done before pointing an accusing finger at another. (Remember, three fingers are pointing back at you.)

*Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to*

*you again.*

Matthew 7:1-2



**Most failures  
are experts  
at making  
excuses.**

## **SUCCINCTLY PUT**

*Seeking to justify a fault only compounds it.*

*Defending a fault only proves one has no intention of acknowledging it.*

*Pride hides a fault to oneself and magnifies it to everyone else.*

*A man's pride will bring him low, But a humble spirit will obtain honor.*

Proverbs 29:23



## Ponder This

## Be Not Anxious

Anxious: A state of uneasiness and apprehension.

*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4:6-7

### Syndrome

If it is a sin to worry, as some are wont to say,  
I find that to be a worrisome thing.  
And if I am sinning by being worrisome,  
It only increases my worrying;  
And that really worries me!  
Round and round I go, where does it stop?  
Could it be the Scripture is misunderstood?

### NOT- BUT

#### Not anxious, but pray!

“Be not anxious” is an admonition to replace anxiety with prayer. Anxiety in a man’s heart weighs it down (Proverbs 12:25), but prayer produces peace of mind, knowing that God will take care of you.

*Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.*

1 Peter 5:6-7

**Rather than be anxious about something  
and let it get you down, take it to the  
Lord in prayer.**



## Musings of a Preacher

## An Inspiring Example

Her name was Jewel. She was a widow who lived alone. She had experienced numerous health issues (including heart trouble) during her 60+ years. She was only able to be out of bed for about six hours a day.

One could easily feel sorry for her, but she wouldn’t hear of it. She tended a small garden outside the back door of her apartment. She made quilts on a quilting rack in her front room. She was always thinking of others. And she made it to church services regularly. I can recall seeing her sitting in the second row with a smile on her face, yet all the while knowing she was suffering. Her determination, her cheerful disposition, and her genuine love of the Lord were something to behold.

Now many years have passed and she is no longer with us, but I continue to draw strength from her example.

I’m sure there are those who have impacted your life in a positive way. Be grateful for what they have done. And be thoughtful of how you can impact the lives of those coming along after you.

Be inspired by other’s examples. But don’t let it stop there. Others need examples to follow.

**Be an inspiring example  
for others to follow!**

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. © 2017