

Keeping Focused

These 2 words are so difficult to abide by in the world we are living in today; we all want to be the best Christians we possibly can for the Lord! We get so fired up for the Lord when we're in church or among our Christian friends, however as soon as we're away from that, that's when it becomes so difficult to keep 'firing on all cylinders' for the Lord. Whenever a distraction comes along that pulls us away from the scriptures or from our closeness with the Lord, it happens so subtly that we don't realise that it's happening until our next conviction. However, on that line it can become so dangerous when we aren't good at taking criticism as we would always argue back at statements/points given thinking that we are right in what we're doing and not even being open to what others can see; just like Love is blind we can also be blind to our sins/errors. **Proverbs Ch27v6 - Faithful are the wounds of a friend;**

It can be so upsetting when we think how much the Lord loves us and all that he has done for us, that we struggle to keep our minds stayed on Him! The more I think about it, the more I realise how much I don't deserve to have the Lord in my life... I'm such a sinner and I have done nothing at all to deserve a place in Heaven with the Lord. I just thank the Lord for His mercy and grace towards me. **Romans Ch5v8 - But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

There is more than just one thing in our Christian lives that we are to keep focused on, which at times can be so difficult; but with the help of our Lord Jesus Christ, His word, and encouragement from our brothers and sisters in Christ we can keep close to him at all times.

Attraction and distractions of this world – This can be one of the hardest things to fight in our lives, is the state of this world today; there are so many things out there that appeal to all different sorts of people, whether its sports, television, holidays, entertainment, music etc. whatever you personally enjoy in life the Devil knows what to try and drag you into to try and pull you away from what you should be doing. He constantly says 'a little won't hurt' until you're completely consumed. I personally find it hard to keep myself away from all this as there is always something or someone who will try and draw you in all these worldly things – but I thank the Lord that He has always been there to pull me out of situations and to close doors so that I don't go through them. **Romans Ch12v2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**

Eternity/rapture/time running out – it's so easy to say that the Lord is coming soon, and believe it in your heart, however when we say the 'Lord shall be coming back any day soon' do we actually action out our beliefs? Are we trying to reach everyone we can with the gospel as if we know the lord is returning very soon, do we have our house in order and ready as if everything shall be left behind for others to see after us? This challenged me only recently as we were talking about the Rapture and how soon it really is; this really did get to me and I started to action things, however I then thought to myself, why am I not constantly feeling like this, as I've always know that the Lord shall return soon. So again, this did have an impact on me. **Revelation Ch3v3 - Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.**

Being an ambassador (not conforming to this world) – Being an ambassador to others always seems to sound easier than it actually is. To always act in a correct manor, attitude and example is difficult; we can easily say that 90% of the time I'm a good example to others, but what about that 10% people easily remember your bad points but not so easily your good points, therefore this 10% bad all of a sudden becomes more. In so many situations it's so easy to follow the crowd or to agree with a disagreeable statement because it's so much easier and it prevents confrontation. If only we kept the Lord continually on our hearts and minds this would be so much easier to do and we wouldn't get that temptation to conform to this world out of ease – we must keep our minds fixed on Christ in these situations. **Ephesians Ch6v20 - For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.**

Romans Ch12v2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Bible reading – Something I always want to do more of. Again this is something that really does get to me in my personal walk with the Lord as to think how much time in the day I spend doing other things I need/want to do and how little I actually spend in God’s word – I always want to read more and study the Bible but time is always stolen from this. I want to give the Lord the best in my life and I want Him to have the pre-eminence, and I know this isn’t always the case and I don’t like that. So every day I want to make a new start to the Lord and I want to stay as close to Him as I possibly can. The more that we keep focused on the Bible and keep reading the Bible the more we live like the Lord in all we do spiritually and physically. Either sin will keep you from this book or this book will keep you from sin. **Psalm Ch119v11 - Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. Psalm Ch119v16 - I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.**