

“When Christians Waste Their Lives”

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

Fractured: How God Restores A Broken Church

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Imagine this!

A piece of wood, hay, and a bunch of coins in a fire... What will remain after the fire dies?

Paul employs this metaphor in... the main passage to describe that the Christian’s life is a _____ project.

Let’s look at some examples of... Christians who are not building so well. *Circle the one you can relate to the most:*

- The stunted growth faith, the comfortable retirement drift, the overworked provider, the social media disciple, the unhealthy relationship cycle, the quiet compromise at work, the church consumer, the one who never shares their faith, financially blessed but spiritually idle, the hidden bitterness, the distracted single person...

Any Gen Z’ers familiar with... the 2017 anti-drug commercial “This Is Your Brain On Heroin”?

- How about, “This Is Your Life On Autopilot”? (Your spiritual life, that is.)

A spiritual life on autopilot leads to... children not taking faith seriously, people who needed the gospel never receiving it, sin damaging a family, God’s resources being used for selfish purposes, missing out the joy/peace/hope that only God can provide, modeling a shallow version of Christianity that others assume is normal... (2 Co 5:6-10; 1 Co 6:19-20; 1 Pe 1:18-19)

“The Christian life should not be a quiet journey to the grave, arriving comfortable, cautious, and spiritually unused. It should be a life poured out for Christ—skidding into eternity thoroughly spent, joyfully exhausted, and able to say, ‘My Lord, wow, what a ride!’” – *A paraphrase from a Hunter S. Thompson quote*

“This really resonates with me. I want my life to count for eternity. Help!”

1 Corinthians 3:10-15... Takeaways...

- 1. V 11...** The moment you were made spiritually alive (Eph 2:4-5), the foundation of your life was laid, which is _____.
 - A building (us) rests on, aligns with, and depends on the foundation (Christ).
 - If Christ is your foundation, then every aspect of your life should be built on Him (Matt 7:24-27).
- 2. V 12...** What does Paul mean regarding these _____?
 - Employing this filter will provide the insight you need:

“Is what I’m doing helping people KNOW Jesus, GROW in their love for Him, and GO share their story? (Col 3:23-24)”

TURN OVER

1. Serving in Any Capacity	Out of Love	Out of Recognition
2. The Word	Prayerful Study → Transformation	"Fast Food" → Inspiration
3. Response to Conflict	Seeking Reconciliation	Holds Grudges/Unforgiving
4. Discipleship	Mentoring, Leading by Example	Church is a Weekly Event
5. Obedience	Living for Jesus in Everyday Life	"Church Life" and Everyday Life is Different
6. Priorities	Investing in Eternal Matters	Expending Resources on Temporary Things

3. **VV 13-15...** The "D____" that Paul is referring to is called *The Judgment Seat of Christ*.

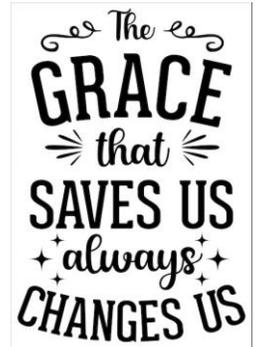
- If we build with the right materials, we will be rewarded. If not, we'll suffer loss yet still go to heaven (Eph 2:8-10).

THE MAIN POINT: Live intentionally for eternity by investing your time, treasure, and talents by helping people KNOW Jesus, GROW in their love for Him, and GO share their story (2 Cor 5:9-10).

(Let's resolve the tension) "This is great, Pastor, yet to be honest... my spiritual life IS on autopilot, and I don't really mind that, especially since I know that I'll go to heaven anyway."

- In response I have a helpful litmus test called "Struggle vs. Indifference"
- When God's Word shows you something in your life that needs to change, on a scale of 1-5, how much do you desire to respond? ___/5 Or perhaps you feel no concern at all. T/F

Grace guarantees heaven, but grace also awakens love for the One who saved us. When Christ becomes our treasure, we no longer settle for spiritual autopilot—we want our lives to count for Him. A life built out of love for Christ will naturally pursue what lasts forever.



Calls-to-Action Resulting in Building a Life That You Will Be Rewarded For

1. **Every time you wake up...** instead of saying, "Oh Lord, it's morning," say, "Good morning, Lord!" In other words, start with prayer. And choose joy every single morning.
2. **Identify the person you're holding a grudge (wood/hay/straw) against.** Commit to praying (gold/silver/precious stones) for blessing over that person. Then, seek an opportunity to reconcile.
3. **Go through your bank checking account statement.** After all, it's God's \$ and He's trusting you to manage it to advance His kingdom. Determine how much \$ is contributing towards the church and missions (gold / silver / precious stones). Then, determine how you can give more. *Rinse and repeat with your time and talents.*
4. **If you haven't yet done so, take the first step in executing NVC's 4 x 4 program.** Write down those four names!

GOING DEEPER FOR "WHEN CHRISTIANS WASTE THEIR LIVES" – 03.15.26

Go through this note sheet with your Growth Group and/or your family at the dinner table. Seek opportunities to also share this with your *oikos* network. Bring this note sheet to your work or school and discuss it with your workmate or schoolmate over lunch. Read the main passage and look up all of the supporting verses. Pray with one another.