

## APPLICATION FOR ACTS 17:28

Acts 17:28 helps us to understand our relationship with Jesus Christ. All too often we are told what to do but not how to do it. These principles and passages give us definitive actions to take to increase our intimate fellowship with Jesus Christ. In actuality Paul tells us everything He's done for us.

Remember who you are is God's gift to you! What you become is your gift to God!

Here are 8 principles that will give us the ability to apply Acts 17:28

1. We are to love Jesus – Mark. 12:29,30  
Love Him with all of our emotion, perception, passion, and power
2. Listen to Jesus - John 14:15  
If you're not listening you're not loving.
3. Lean on Jesus - Gal. 2:20  
Remember my snail analogy. The sea snail is slow on the ocean bottom. A predator comes and sucks him out of his shell. But the sea crab loves the shell of the sea snail and when he finds the shell of a dead snail, he goes to live in it. Now a new life inhabits an old shell. The new life has more power. The new life has more protection. The new life can move faster. Christ lives His life through us just like that sea crab. Takes that dead shell and gives it new life.
4. Live for Him – Phil. 1:21  
Notice in this verse there is no connective tissue. No conjunctions which underscores “and have our being”. Without conjunctions or other connective material, Paul reveals he is talking about essence. The essence of his existence is Christ.
5. Learn of Him - Mat. 11:28-30  
The first rest is our salvation or justification. Jesus said I will give you rest. The 2<sup>nd</sup> rest is sanctification. “Learn of me and you shall find

rest". The 1<sup>st</sup> rest is relationship. The 2<sup>nd</sup> rest is fellowship. Jesus is totally responsible for the 1<sup>st</sup> rest. We have a responsibility in the role we play for fellowship.

6. Labor for Him – Eph. 2:10

'Workmanship' is derived from a Greek word from which we get the word 'poem'. We are God's poem. The tragedy is too many of us do not read like poems. We read like graffiti on a bathroom wall. Note, God already foreordained what our work for Him will be. That's why we must listen for His voice to tell us "this is the way walk ye in it".

7. Long for Him - 2 Tim. 4:7,8 (niv)

There is a crown attached to this principle. The crown of righteousness which tells us that if you're longing, you're also living. If you're not living you're not longing.

8. Look for Him - James 5:7

It's a blessed hope. Remember the word hope means outstretched neck. I know He is coming. I'm looking for Him, I just don't know when.

Paul summarized it all in Phil. 3:10 "**That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;**