

Changed Actions

How is our “Living” impacted by Christianity?

Biblical instructions are both specific and general. While specific instructions are straightforward, general instructions/principles involve application to our times & culture. Applications of general instructions & principles are applied for the entire church body and also for individuals.

Important questions when applying Biblical principles:

- What pleases the Lord?
- What’s the best way?
- What’s the safest way?

How does Christianity change my actions?

- **Our actions please God rather than grieve Him** (*Colossians 3:17, Ephesians 4:30*)

We respect that God is watching our lives.

- **Our actions regard our bodies as temples of the Holy Ghost**

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? ¹⁷If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which *temple* you are.

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

We respect the body that is now the temple of God.

- **Our actions are above accusation**

1 Peter 2:11-12 Beloved, I beg *you* as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, ¹²having your **conduct** honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by *your good works* which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.

We accept the responsibility of honorable conduct.

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- **Our actions impact others**

Romans 14:12-13 So then each of us shall give account of himself to God. ¹³Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in *our* brother's way.

1 Corinthians 8:9 But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak.

We respect that others are watching us.

- **Our actions don't give place to the devil**

Ephesians 4:25-27 Therefore, putting away lying, "*Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,*" for we are members of one another. ²⁶*"Be angry, and do not sin":* do not let the sun go down on your wrath, ²⁷nor give place to the devil.

1 Peter 5:8-9 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

We recognize spiritual vulnerability.

- **Our actions don't give place to sinful humanity**

1 John 2:16 For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

We recognize human vulnerability.

Actions that differentiate Christians from today's society

- **Christians practice self-discipline** (*1 Corinthians 9:25, Galatians 5:23, 2 Peter 1:5-9*)

Discipleship means a disciplined life.

- **Christians speak truth** (*Ephesians 4:25, 28*)

- **Christianity changes our language** (*Ephesians 4:29, 31; Matthew 12:36-37; James 1:26*)

We are careful with our words. We control our tongues. We pay close attention to what we say.