

The New Testament contains a great deal of advice about how the Christian should live. Paul told Timothy that people would profess godliness but would not show it in their lives. Notice his words in *2 Timothy 3:5*: "They will hold to the outward form of our religion, but reject its real power. Keep away from these men."

God looks for children who show by their lives the power of His grace. If the Christian is a "new creature in Christ," then his family, friends, and community will know about it by the change in the way he conducts himself.

Peter said in *1 Peter 2:2*, "Be like newborn babies, always thirsty for the pure spiritual milk, so that by drinking it you may grow up and be saved."

We receive this spiritual food from a study of the Word of God. Only as we continue to pray and study the Bible will we continue to grow more like our Saviour. As we learn more about Him and His way, He will change us to act as He acted while on earth.

A special series of Bible lessons on the great fundamentals of Christianity has been especially prepared for you. If you would like to continue to grow in grace and the knowledge of God's will for your life, indicate your desire to receive this free offer by checking the appropriate box below.

I long to live the victorious life for Christ. ☐

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## *Steps to Eternal Life* **The Obedient Life / 6**

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*Always pray before opening your Bible.  
Find the text in your Bible and write the answer.*

In the religious world there is great confusion about the type of life the newborn Christian will live as he prepares for a place with God throughout eternity. Some believe that the new Christian has no obligation even to think about living a holy life, while others believe the babe in Christ will long to grow in Christian grace as he becomes more and more like his Saviour.

After a recent meeting, a very excited young man confronted me. He said that once he had accepted Christ he could kill 10,000 people and God would still save him. Others say that Christians can steal, curse, commit adultery, lie, and cheat and God will continue to save them.

Jesus seems to have a different opinion. He called the people who followed Him to live holy lives. He never said a man could earn salvation by his works, but He did say that a man's work would show his relationship to God. He said: "Not everyone who calls Me 'Lord, Lord,' will enter into the kingdom of heaven, but only those who do what My Father in heaven wants them to do. When that day comes, many will say to Me, 'Lord, Lord! In Your name we spoke God's message, by Your name we drove out many demons and performed many miracles!' Then I will say to them, 'I never knew you. Away from Me, you evildoers!'" *Matthew 7:21-22.*

Notice that those who are excluded from the kingdom believe that they are true followers of Christ. They have even performed miracles in the name of Christ. He says that they are not His because they did not do God's will, and calls them "evildoers."

The Bible emphasizes this point when it tells the believers what happens if they deliberately sin after they have known God's will and have been purified