

A Blameless Life

BY STEPHEN ELLIOTT | APRIL 27, 2019

May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thess. 5:23)

Methodists are sometimes wrongfully accused of teaching that it is possible to live without fault in this life. In my sixty-three years of being associated with the Wesleyan denomination, I have never heard any pastor, denominational leader, or professor say faultless living is possible. The only person who has or ever will live without error is Jesus. All the rest of us will, at some point, fall very short of that standard of absolute, holy living.

But there is a significant and important difference between living “faultlessly” and living “blamelessly.” Clearly our key verse for today indicates it is possible to live blamelessly. The distinction between faultless and blameless is seen in Psalm 19:13, which states that blameless living is not being involved in willful sin. At conversion, and further reinforced by the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit, Christ-followers can live in such a way that they do not willfully choose to disobey the known will of God (see James 4:17). A child of God may stumble, falter, err, mess up, forget, neglect, or even disappoint God or others, but the God who sees the heart’s intent knows the difference between conscious rebellion to his will, and those who simply expressed human frailties.

Together, we can be thankful that we serve a God who looks on the heart more than on the outward appearance.

Look more at the heart intents of others, rather than their actions.

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April 28, 2019

Sermon Notes:

John 20:1-23

Matthew 20:17-19

Acts 2:32, 36

The _____ of the Disciples’ belief in the resurrection

Matthew 28:11-15

Question #1: is this information _____?

Question #2: Is this information _____?

1 Corinthians 15:13-20

Reflection: What is one new thing you believe God spoke to you today as a result of worshipping at FOCUS?

The Word of God directs us as we consider what the *next step* is for our lives. Have you taken the time to examine the evidence of the resurrection of Jesus the Nazarene for yourself? If not, what is holding you back from in-depth rigorous study of the claims of the Bible specifically pertaining to the resurrection of Jesus?

If you have done the rigorous study, what have you concluded? Have you found the claims of the resurrection to be reliable and relevant for you life? How will you apply this message to your life this week?

Challenge: This week I will pray for the following local schools: Faculty, teachers, and students:

Communion at FOCUS

Every Sunday at FOCUS we celebrate the **Lord's Table, also known as Communion.** We have open communion which means all are invited to receive. We receive communion elements by intinction. Tearing off a small piece of the loaf of bread, dipping it in the communion glass of juice, and then consuming it immediately. Please note, upon your request, we also have gluten free elements for those with gluten and other major food allergies.

FOCUS Small Groups

Are you interested in connecting with others throughout the week? We have several Small Groups meeting and some who are preparing to start additional groups. Here are the groups already gathering during the week:

~ **Women's Group** - 11 AM Wednesdays - Upbeat Café

~ **Men's Group** - 11 AM Wednesdays - Upbeat Café

~ **Women's Life Group** - Wednesday Evenings 7 PM - **Life Group member's Home, Sadieville, KY**

*If you would like more information about joining or starting a small group please contact Pastor Anton.
afolz@focuswesleyan.org

FOCUS Youth Group

We invite you to come and join us tonight, 6:30 -8PM for games, worship, and growing together! Friends welcome, snacks provided!



FOCUS
WESLEYAN CHURCH

**At FOCUS we exist to;
Worship God,
Live for Jesus,
Love all People,
and Serve the World.**

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W.E.L.C.O.M.E

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE