

What God Wants for Christmas

Intro: I really do want to be a pillar and support of God's perspective in this world.
I want to live an effective Christian life. I want Jesus to Captain my ship.
How do I re-orient myself to actually do this, to really live this way?

1. Pray. Talk to the Lord about it. And talk with God about others.

A. How should we pray?

entreaties: a specific supplication regarding a **need**

prayers: general term for both private and public prayers

petitions: appeal on someone else's behalf, conversational **intercession**

giving thanks: expressing gratitude

B. How and for whom should we pray?

Move beyond your own wish list in your prayers. Pray for others as well.
Intercede on their behalf. Realistically you can't pray for everybody
by name or as individuals, but you can pray for **somebody**.
So write an **evangelism** prayer list.

They prayed for their government leaders, so that they would lead in such
a way as to promote civility and peaceful communities. Nero was emperor
at the time.

**2. Align your wants with His wants, your will with His will,
your values with His values, your priorities with His priorities.**

A. Notice what God likes, approves and wants:

God likes, approves and wants us to live godly, holy lives
evangelizing people.

B. The purpose of a quiet and peaceful life is godliness, holiness and
evangelism.

C. The reason we pray for a civil, peaceful society is so that we can live godly,
holy lives evangelizing people unhindered.

Our primary objective is to carry out our purpose and mission as Christians
and as the Church:

- **Bring** the message of reconciliation to all people
- Glorify God by living the message of reconciliation in all of our **relationships**.

**3. Bring the knowledge of the truth to others.
Speak the truth of the gospel to everyone you meet.**

A. What is it "to be saved"?

Salvation is **deliverance** from the power and penalty of sin.

B. What is it "to come to a knowledge of the truth"?

Knowledge is **recognition**. It is when you "get it", when it "clicks" for you.

The truth Paul to which Paul is referring is the **gospel**.

C. When does this happen?

It happens at a **point** in time.

It is the culmination of a **process** that takes place over time.

It takes time because it requires understanding certain content
and it requires **submitting** your will.

D. For whom does God want this?

"All men" means "all people". 1 Tim. 2:1, 2:3, 2:6; 4:10 and in 2 Peter 3:9

Message

God wants you.
Then He wants you to bring others to Him.

So What? Now What? Action Points:

- Invite people to church events.
- Write your story and master telling it.
 1. My life before Christ, before turning to the Lord Jesus for deliverance
 2. How I met Him, specifically at this point, explain the gospel
 3. My life since becoming a Christian
- Speak with others about your walk with Christ often.
- Relate what you're learning lately to others often.