

Lessons Learned About God, Life, and Man

1. To live the Christian life is to treat each other as a family: we are brothers and sisters united in Christ with God as our Father and Jesus Christ as our Lord, 1:1-2.
2. There's something in the Gospel that is supposed to transform our lives: it'll cause us to love everyone, to live a godly life that is extremely fruitful, and to let the Spirit of God take full control of our lives so that we act out of love and not fear, anger, anxiety, guilt, shame, or anything else, 1:3-8.
3. As part of Christ's family we should pray for each other, not just when we're in trouble, but when we're getting it right, when we're walking with God and each other properly. We should ask God for this awesome walk and our relationship with Him to increase more and more, 1:3-4, 9-12.
4. We should always thank God our Father for all that He's done for us in rescuing us from a life of darkness and giving us a life of meaning and eternal purpose, 1:3-4, 12-13.
5. We should be willing to sacrifice time and energy to see others enter the family of Christ and experience the love of the Father and the Son so that their lives will be transformed and fruitful, 1:6-8.
6. If you know and intimately understand God's will for your life, you will have a fruitful life full of meaning and purpose and you will tap into God's glorious power which will enable you to persevere with a smile on your face, 1:9-11.
7. The last thing God wants is for us to wander aimlessly not knowing why we were put on this earth. He wants us to know why He made us, our purpose in life. He wants us to partake of the inheritance He has waiting for us, 1:9, 12.
8. As incredible as it may sound, God can give you the ability to overcome heartache, loneliness, depression, anxiety, fear, and any other form of suffering with patience and joy, 1:11.
9. Satan used to have power over us, but then God the Father delivered us from his power of darkness and placed us in the Kingdom of His Son, 1:13.
10. Christ's death forgave all of our sins. This means that no one will ever go to hell because of their sins but it should also mean that no one should ever live with guilt, 1:14.
11. If you want to know if God is angry with you, if God cares about you, if He's forgotten about you, if you want to know what He thinks, if you want to know what God is like in any way whatsoever, just look at Jesus: He's the image of the invisible God, 1:15.
12. Jesus is over EVERYTHING, including your life, every detail of it, 1:15.
13. Jesus created EVERYTHING, from DNA to supernovas and beyond and He made it all for Himself, but not like an egomaniac. Jesus is the opposite of an egomaniac; if you doubt this, just look at the Cross, 1:16.

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14. Jesus also keeps EVERYTHING going, from the sun that rises every morning to our breathing, 1:17.
15. God was pleased to have everything that He is dwell in Jesus Christ, 1:19 (2:9).
16. In the Garden of Eden things went to hell. Through Satan's deception God was separated from His creation, especially mankind. But in Jesus Christ God the Father reconciled EVERYTHING back to Himself. God has brought peace back to this universe through the death of His Son, 1:20.
17. Even though we were God's enemies, Jesus has reconciled us back to God through His death so that one day He might present us completely cleansed of everything that is bad, 1:21-22.
18. Jesus will one day present us blameless. But in order for this to happen we must remain grounded in the faith, we must not move away from the hope of the Gospel. That is, the only way to perfection is Christ, 1:22-23, 28.
19. A relationship with God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ will make you want to give up your life for others, you will willingly suffer for those around you, 1:24.
20. If you let Him, God will tell you what you were meant to be in this life, 1:9, 25.
21. It's near impossible to grasp the fact that the God of the universe dwells in us, but that's exactly the reality of Christians: Christ dwells in us and this should give us endless hope, 1:15, 27.
22. Christianity is not about praying, singing, sermons, Bible studies, devotionals, church socials, or anything else. It's about one Person and living life in relationship with Him: Jesus Christ, 1:28.
23. The job of a Christian is to show others how to live life in relationship with Jesus, how to face every aspect of life through His wisdom and guidance. This and nothing else is what it means to be perfect, 1:28-29.
24. God the Father and Jesus Christ is where the Christian is supposed to get his strength to live and thrive, 1:11, 29.