

TITLE: FOUR Crucial Questions everyone must answer!
These questions are based on what we see in Psalms 1

3/20/2022

- 1. WHOM WILL I FOLLOW?**
- 2. WHAT WILL I FOLLOW?**
- 3. HOW WILL I FOLLOW?**
- 4. WHY WILL I FOLLOW?**

MAIN TEXT: PSALM 1 (This Psalm is anonymous)

CENTRAL THEME: Choosing to Live Godly lives everyday, requires learning to renew our minds with God's truth, so that we follow God's Way, and live Lives that are a Blessing to others.

We can only do this if we answer these four questions appropriately.

INTRO: Psalm one is a word picture about making choices. It contrasts two different "ways" to live. One is like a "tree" the other like "chaff." The two life-styles are completely opposite from one another. The Psalmist gives several characteristics of both, along with their contrasting destinies. The contrast is not just between the tree and the chaff, but between two distinct sources of wisdom and understanding, God's Word on one hand, The wicked and Mockers on the other.

Psalm One also serves as an introduction to the other 149 Psalms. Like the other Psalms they were prayers and songs used in private and corporate worship. THE PSALMS ARE FILLED WITH ANSWERS TO THESE FOUR QUESTIONS: WHO WILL WE FOLLOW, WHAT WILL WE FOLLOW, HOW WILL WE FOLLOW AND WHY WILL WE FOLLOW.

"Blessed" in the time of the O.T. meant, to be full of inner joy, live in a state of satisfaction filled with good will "–Happy" (but not the happiness based on circumstances) THIS THEME OF BLESSING – BEING BLESSED IS SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE PSALMS:

WHOM WILL YOU FOLLOW v. one

Who will you follow? If you study and obey God's word, you will become more **DISCERNING** and on the road to being blessed, If your conduct and character are shaped by wicked people you will not be blessed. Your actions, ambitions, attitudes have consequences.

The blessed person discovers the boundaries and determines to not let anything or anyone distract him/her. They choose every day whom they will follow. Where their allegiance lies. If they identify with darkness or LIGHT. Heartache or HOPE, Shame or FORGIVENESS, Bondage or FREEDOM

Does Not Stand in way of sinners: *Chooses to: Take a Firm Position for God and against Sin, and those surrounded by sinful conduct.*

Does Not Sit in the seat of the mockers: **Chooses: to Rest in the authority of God's Power against distractors**

II - verse two WHAT WILL You FOLLOW?

DEDICATION TO GOD'S WORD: Psalms 119 in general 176 verses designed to be memorized in acrostic form in each of the sections of 8 verses: Meditation – murmur softly, practice of memorizing scripture, repeating, going over and over until it is in your mind and heart and life

Psalms 19:7-14, Verse 14 “*May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.*”

B. DELIGHT IN GOD'S WORD: **Jeremiah 15:16** *When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, Lord God Almighty.*

III verse 3 HOW WILL YOU FOLLOW

Discernment of God's Wisdom-Right Choices

Verse two: Delight – Continued Discipline of God's Word

Verse three: Dependence on God's Will – His Way!!

HOW YOU WILL FOLLOW

Location - (By streams of water – Receiving Life) you have what you need to live healthy, holy, transformed life

(Always growing, yielding, giving back)

The believer who ABIDES in Christ, stays Fresh – Think of it as our ROOT System: Colossians – 2:6-7 “So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

John 15. Bears Fruit, More Fruth, Much Fruth, Fruit that remains

Life Application Bible: “*Just as a tree soaks up water and bears luscious fruit, we also are to soak up God's Word, producing actions and attitudes that honor God. To achieve anything worthwhile, we must have God's Word in our hearts.*”

Illustration: Lady in Bella Union, Receives Christ, (gave NT, start with John, read the entire NT in a week) First time she had ever had portion of God's word in her life.

verse three has a spiritual principle **Will Prosper:** Life Application Bible: “It does not mean immunity from failure or difficulties. Nor is it a guarantee of health, wealth and happiness. What the Bible means by prosperity is this: when we apply God’s wisdom, the fruit (results – by products) we bear will be good and receive God’s approval.”

ILLUSTRATION - - **Rings of the tree shows the story of the tree.**

ILLUSTRATION - - NOT LIKE CHAFF - - Contrast verses 4-5
Chaff = instead of the wheat you get: (stems, leaves, husks, dust)
Blown away by the winds – distractors
They are not fruitful - live for themselves
They do not know the truth, or follow God’s Will
There are consequences for the choices that they have made

IV. WHY DO WE FOLLOW GOD- - -A BLESSED PERSON, ESTABLISHES AND MAINTAINS A GODLY LIFESTYLE: THEY ARE WATCHED OVER BY THE LORD - verse 6

THIS ANSWER TO THE QUESTION – WHY DO WE FOLLOW GOD? - - TO BE BLESSED AND TO BLESS OTHERS

First word of this Psalm is BLESSED –

Last word of this Psalm is PERISHED –

WHO – WHAT – HOW WHY - YOU FOLLOW ALL MATTER, EVERY DAY!!

Spiritual Foundations Matter

Spiritual Choices Matter

Spiritual Growth Matters

Bearing Spiritual Fruit Matters

Spiritual Blessing begins with answering these four questions.

CONCLUSION: (WHAT NOW?)

WHO ARE YOU FOLLOWING, WHO HAS YOUR ALLEGIANCE. Someone on Facebook, instant gram, some influencer or blogger? Or is it Jesus Christ.

WHAT IMPACT DOES GOD WORD'S HAVE ON YOUR LIFE? THROUGH YOUR LIFE TO OTHERS? ARE YOU ONLY RECEIVING OR ARE YOU GIVING OUT ALSO?

ARE YOU MORE LIKE THE TREE OR CHAFF?

WHAT DO THE "RINGS" TELL ABOUT YOUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY?

ARE YOU SPIRITUALLY HEALTHY?

ARE YOU BEARING FRUIT? (FRUITY SNACKS – WITH KIDS)

1. 我跟從誰?
2. 我跟從什麼?
3. 我如何跟從?
4. 我為何跟從?

主題經文: 詩篇 1 (這首詩的作者不詳)

主旨: 若要選擇每天過敬虔的生活，需要學習用神的真理更新我們的思想，使我們遵循神的方式，過一種成為別人祝福的生活

唯有當我們恰當地回答這四個問題，我們才能做到這一點。

引言：詩篇第一篇給我們一幅圖畫，描述不同的選擇。它對比兩種不同的生活型態。一種像「樹」，另一種像「糠秕」。這兩種生活方式截然不同。詩篇的作者給兩者幾個特徵，並提到它們不一樣的結局。這個對比不僅在於樹和糠秕，也是在於兩個來源不同的智慧和認知，一方面是神的話語，另一方面是惡人和喜愛褻慢的人。

詩篇第一篇也可以作為其他 149 篇詩篇的引子。與其他詩篇一樣，它們是用於個人和集體敬拜的禱告和頌讚。詩篇充滿了對這四個問題的答案：我們跟隨誰，我們跟隨什麼，我們如何跟隨以及我們為何要跟隨。

「蒙福」在舊約時代的意思是，充滿內心的喜樂，生活在充滿善意的滿足狀態中；「快樂」（但不是基於環境的快樂）。這個祝福的主題—蒙福分散在詩篇中：

1. 你跟隨誰? (v. 1)

你跟隨誰? 若你學習並順服神的話，你就會變得更有分辨能力，並走上蒙福的道路，如果你的行為和品格是由惡人塑造的，你就不會得到祝福。你的行為、志向、心態都會產生後果。

一個蒙福的人了解他的界線，不讓任何事情或人分散他的注意力。他們每天選擇決定跟隨的對象，那是他們效忠的所在。如果他們分辨黑暗與光明、心痛與希望，羞恥與寬恕，束縛與自由。

- A. 不站罪人的道路：選擇：為神站穩立場，抗拒罪，以及那些被罪惡行為包圍的人。
- B. 不坐褻慢人的座位：選擇：安息在神大能的權柄中，抗拒使你分心的人

2. 你跟隨什麼? (v. 2)

- A. 忠於神的話語：詩篇 119 篇中的176 節經文是以每 8 節為一分後，按希伯來文的字母來編排，以方便記憶。默想－輕聲誦讀、練習背誦、重複、一遍又一遍，直到它存記在你的腦中、心中與生命中

詩篇 19:7-14，第14節：耶和華我的磐石，我的救贖主啊，願我口中的言語、心裡的意念在你面前蒙悅納。

- B. 愛慕神的話語：耶利米書 15:16 耶和華萬軍之神啊，我得著你的言語就當食物吃了；你的言語是我心中的歡喜快樂，因我是稱為你名下的人。

3. 你如何跟隨? (v. 3)

辨別神的智慧—正確的選擇

第二節：喜愛—有紀律地遵守神的話語

第三節：依靠神的旨意—祂的方式！！

你如何跟隨?

- A. 地點 - 溪水旁 - 接受生命) 你擁有過健康、聖潔、更新生命所需的一切
- B. (總是在成長、順服、回饋)

住在基督裡的信徒，保持更新—把它想像成我們根部的系統：歌羅西書 2:6-7 你們既然接受了主基督耶穌，就當遵他而行，在他裡面生根建造，信心堅固，正如你們所領的教訓，感謝的心也更增長了。

約翰福音15章：結果子、果子更多、果子長存

生活應用聖經：「就像樹吸水結出甜美的果子一樣，我們也要吸取神的話語，活出榮耀神的行為和態度。要取得任何有價值的成就，我們的心中必須有神的話語。」

例證：貝拉聯盟的女士，接受基督，（有人送她一本新約，她從約翰福音開始，一周內讀完整本新約）她第一次在生命中得到了神話語的一部分。

第三節有一個屬靈的原則。...盡都順利：生活應用聖經：「這並不意味著免於失敗或困難。它也不是健康、財富和快樂的保證。聖經所說的順利是

這樣的：當我們運用神的智慧時，我們所結的果子（結果一副產品）將是美好的，並得到神的認可。」

例證 - 樹的年輪展示了樹的成長經歷。

例證 - 不像糠秕 - - 對比第 4 和第 5 節

- 糠秕 = 你得到的不是小麥，而是莖、葉、殼、灰塵
- 被風吹散—被干擾
- 他們不能結果子—為自己而活
- 他們不認識真理，也不遵從神的旨意
- 他們承擔自己選擇所產生的後果

4. 你為何要跟隨？一個蒙福的人，建立並保持敬虔的生活方式：他們受到主的看顧 - 第 6 節

這個問題的答案—我們為什麼跟隨神？ - 被祝福並祝福他人

這首詩篇的第一句話是有福—

這首詩篇的最後一句話是滅亡—

跟隨誰、跟隨什麼、如何跟隨、為何跟隨：每一天都很重要

- 屬靈的基礎很重要
- 屬靈的選擇很重要
- 屬靈的成長很重要
- 結出屬靈的果子很重要
- 屬靈的祝福從回答這四個問題開始

結論： 如何回應

- 你跟從誰，你效忠誰。臉書 Instagram 有影響力的人或博主？還是耶穌基督
- 神的話對你的生命有何影響？透過你的生命如何影響別人？你是只接受還是也同時給予？
- 你喜歡樹還是糠秕

- 「年輪」如何反映你的靈命之旅？
- 你的屬靈生命健康嗎？
- 你正在結果子嗎？（水果糖的零食—孩子）