

simple things!



following Jesus isn't
"religious footwork!"



simple things!

is following Jesus
“religious footwork!”

complicated!

I. consider 21st ch. mber – patter of living

a. struggle with . . . simple things!

i. “religious footwork!”

II. consider – simple things “process”

a. salvation & conversion . . . positional

& progressive “sanctification!”

b. what are – “simple things?”



- III. consider the bereans – pattern of living
 - a. 21st century church ... model/example!
 - i. excelled ... “simple things!”

- IV. 21st century church members
 - a. daily practices ... “simple things!”
 - b. Importance/purpose/Objective ...
it’s “harvest” season!
 - i. prepare the church for
Christ!



21st century church member “pattern of living”

- ✗ I Know I'm Supposed to Forgive but ...
- ✗ I Know I'm Supposed to Deny Myself,
Take Up My Cross & Follow Jesus but ...
- ✗ I Know We Shouldn't Live Together but ...
- ✗ I Know I'm Supposed to Give but ...
- ✗ I Know I'm Supposed to Be Still, Trust &
Wait on God for My Spouse but ...

Religious Footwork!



21st century church member “pattern of living”

- ✍ I Know I'm Not Supposed to Forsake First-Day-of the Week Worship but . . .
- ✍ I Know I'm Supposed to Study but . . .
- ✍ I Know I Should be Serving – Using My Sp. Gifts/Talents to Edify & Help the Church but . . .

Religious Footwork!



21st century church member “pattern of living”

- ➡ Hypocrisy! Immaturity! Stagnate!
- ➡ In God's Presence NOT More Than Once a Week!
- ➡ Controlled by Fleshly Desires!

romans 2:24

The name of God is blasphemed Among
the Gentiles Because of You!



simple things!
is following Jesus complicated?

2 corinthians 11:3

**“but I am afraid that, as the serpent
deceived Eve by his craftiness, your
minds will be led astray from the
simplicity and purity of devotion to
Christ!”**



simple things!
is following Jesus complicated?

romans 12:11

“Never lagging in Zeal, Not Slothful
and Fervent in Spirit; Serving the
Lord!”



simple things “Process!”

positional sanctification

The Moment of Salvation, you are changed & set apart “positionally!” spiritually born!

- ✂ made alive! saved from sin’s penalty!
- ✂ no longer dead to sin & an enemy of God!
- ✂ citizens of the kingdom of heaven!
- ✂ new creation in Christ – member of the body of Christ!



simple things “process!”

progressive sanctification

learn to “put on” the new self!

- ✦ gradual spiritual growth by yielding – surrender/submission to the Holy Spirit!
- ✦ as the mind is renewed, the heart is transformed; outward behavior changes!
- ✦ Become a worshipper by continual repentance, obedience & faith!



simple things “process!”

progressive sanctification

ephesians 4:22-24

“put off Your old self, which belongs to your former pattern of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the Spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness!”



simple things

godly practices – every disciple of Christ is expected & commanded to follow/obey due to positional & progressive sanctification!

daily practices the bible prescribes – linked to maturity in Christ!

daily practices that give testimony to the transforming power of the gospel & Fruit that reveals godliness!



simple things

simple things are simple – because God does not require you to obey Him beyond your aptitude or abilities!

1 john 5:3

“His commandments are not grievous!”



These would be grievous

God didn't require you to:

- ➔ pay for or make atonement for your sin!
- ➔ save yourself or secure your salvation!
- ➔ fulfill the law & work out grace!
- ➔ bear your own burdens!
- ➔ fight temptations or satan without His guidance, strength & grace!



“bereans” pattern of living

“model & example” for the 21st century church & church member!

- ✘ Pursued/Listened – God’s Word!
- ✘ Received God’s Word w/Readiness & Eagerness! Enthusiastically Receptive!
- ✘ Searched the Scriptures (Examined & Studied the Word)... The Bible – How Daily Lived in a Godless Culture!



“bereans” pattern of living

1 thessalonians 5:21

pursue/listen to God's Word; do not treat prophecies in the church as if it were unimportant. but test everything; hold on to what is good, and stay away from every form of evil!”



“bereans” pattern of living

1 john 4:1

“beloved, many false prophets have gone out into the world. So do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see if they are from God!”



simple things

daily practices you must excel

- ✘ maturity!
- ✘ not forsaking weekly worship!
- ✘ deny self, take up your Cross & follow!
- ✘ be separate from the world!
- ✘ rich towards God!
- ✘ making vows!
- ✘ defending your faith!



simple things

1 john 5:3

“His commandments are not grievous!”

because God's commands oppose & conflict
with your will & selfish desires... doesn't
make His Word grievous or complicated!

simple things aren't simple for one reason
... the free will God gave you – He will not
over-rule your free will!



simple things

daily practices you must excel

- ✘ maturity!
- ✘ not forsaking weekly worship!
- ✘ deny self, take up your Cross & follow!
- ✘ be separate from the world!
- ✘ rich towards God!
- ✘ making vows!
- ✘ defending your faith!



simple things

importance, purpose & objective

john 4:34-35

Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to accomplish His work.

Do you not say, there are yet four months, then comes the harvest? look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest!

