

#1

Keeping a Positive Attitude

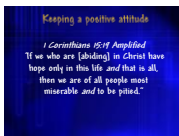


John 10:10 NKJV “I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.”

What exactly is the abundant life?

There is much more to abundant life than being saved and knowing you are going to heaven.

#2



1 Corinthians 15:19 Amplified “If we who are [abiding] in Christ have hope only in this life *and* that is all, then we are of all people most miserable *and* to be pitied.”

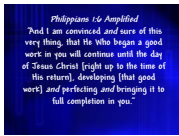
Our salvation deals with the here and the now and it also covers eternity.

Abundant life definitely has reference to heaven.

But, abundant life has a dramatic affect on where we are right now and what is happening in this life.

It involves hope in this life and for eternity.

#3

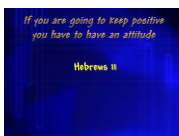


Philippians 1:6 Amplified “And I am convinced *and* sure of this very thing, that He Who began a good work in you will continue until the day of Jesus Christ [right up to the time of His return], developing [that good work] *and* perfecting *and* bringing it to full completion in you.”

If you are going to keep positive, you have to have an attitude

Look at people mentioned in Hebrews 11.

#4



When I consider the heroes in the Bible, I notice they all had an attitude.

Job had an attitude -

He refused to lose his trust in God.

He knew he would come out as pure gold.

Noah had an attitude -

He believed that he was going to succeed in what he was doing.

He did not start building that thing with the notion it would not float.

Daniel had an attitude -

He was not going to bend or bow.

He faced the lions with an attitude.

Keep looking at those heroes.

They kept a positive attitude of faith and trust in God.

They kept a positive attitude of expectation from God.

#5

Hebrews 11:1 NIV
Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.
Hebrews 11:1 NLT
Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.

Hebrews 11:1 NIV Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Hebrews 11:1 NLT Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.

It is impossible to remain positive if you do not have faith in God.

#6

What is the definition of faith, expectation, and attitude?
Faith - the absolute certainty in the truthfulness of another.
Expectation - the confident anticipation that an event will happen.
Attitude - a manner of being, feeling or thinking that shows one's disposition or opinion.

What is the definition of faith, expectation, and attitude?

Faith - the absolute certainty in the trustworthiness of another, specifically here trust in God.

Expectation - the confident anticipation that an event will happen, God said it would and it will.

#7



Attitude - a manner of acting, feeling or thinking that shows one's disposition or opinion

Developing and keeping a positive attitude of expectation is a progressive process.

It is developed by hearing, reading, mediating, and speaking the Word of God.

God was behind the positive faith of the heroes of faith in Hebrews 11.

They all heard a Word from God.

They believed that God was faithful to what He said.

They held on to that Word.

They refused to give up on what God said.

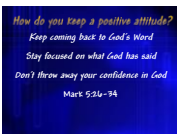
They based their life and their future on His Word.

They became bold in their confession of what God had said.

They had an inward belief that was expressed by an outward action.

Hebrews 10:35 NIV So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.

#8



How do you keep a positive attitude?

Keep coming back to God's Word.

You have to stay focused on what God has said.

Don't throw away your confidence in God.

In Mark 5:26-34 there is a story of a woman who had an issue of blood for twelve years.

Her experience in life had been very negative.

She had suffered many things of many physicians.

#9



They had tried everything on her.
Nothing helped.

When she heard of Jesus, her attitude changed.

She believed that everything would change if she could just touch His clothes she would be made whole.

*When she started toward Jesus,
she had to conquer the crowd.*

She had to conquer her own weakness.

She had to press on toward Jesus.

Her faith stayed focused on Christ Jesus.

You need to understand what this woman did.

No one promised her that if she would do this she would be healed.

She simply heard of Jesus and what He had done.

She took positive action against the odds.

She had nothing to look forward to in this life.

She was financially hopeless.

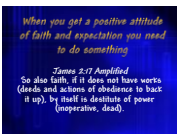
She was medically hopeless.

She was a social outcast, because of her situation.

She was spiritually unclean.

She got an attitude.

#10



When you get a positive attitude of faith and expectation, you need to do something .

James 2:17 Amplified “So also faith, if it does not have works (deeds and actions of obedience to back it up), by itself is destitute of power (inoperative, dead).”

#11

That woman had heard something about Jesus, and she took action.
Psalm 62:5 NKJV My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him.

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#12

In Mark 2:1-12 is a story of a man who was a paralytic.
How do you keep a positive attitude of faith and expectation when the odds are against you?

In Mark 2:1-12 is a story of a man who was a paralytic.

He was not able to help himself.

He had four friends who carried him to Jesus.

When they got to the house where Jesus was they found an impossible situation.

The house was not only filled with people, there were crowd of people all around the house.

How do you keep a positive attitude of faith and expectation when the odds are against you?

These five men were not going to give up.

They had an attitude.

They climbed up on the house and pulled the man up there, and started removing the roof.

They believed that the answer to their problem was at hand and they were not giving up.

When you get an attitude and decide to do something with it, you become a participator of God's provision.

#13

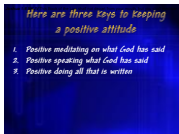
Here are three keys to keeping a positive attitude.
Joshua 1:8 NKJV This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

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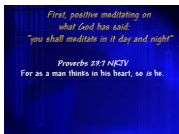
I want to give these three steps to you and then we will consider them:

#14



***First, positive meditating on what God has said
Second, positive speaking what God has said
Third, positive doing all that is written***

#15

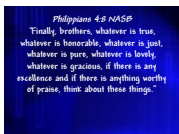


***First, positive meditating on what God has said:
“you shall meditate in it day and night”
Proverbs 23:7 NKJV For as a man thinks in his heart, so is he.***

If you want to stay positive, you have to think positive. There is nothing more positive than God’s Word. What you think matters.

You have to get the Word of God down in you.

#16



Philippians 4:8 New American “Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”

When you are challenged by a world of negativity, you need to fill your mind with the Positive Word of God.

When the enemy comes to destroy your faith in God, you have to attack him with God's word.

You need to know what God’s Word says about you. You need to know what God’s Word provides for you. You need to fill your mind with these things.

#17



Define yourself by what God says about you.
Psalm 77:12 NIV I will meditate on all your works and consider all your mighty deeds.

#18



First, positive meditating on what God has said
Second, positive speaking
“This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth.”

I can only imagine what Noah did all of those years.
I imagine he kept on saying: “God told me to build an ark for the saving of my family.”
I imagine he kept telling those people: “God said this is the way to escape the trouble that is coming on the world.”

What did that woman with an issue of blood keep telling herself?

She was pressing through the crowd: “If I can but touch his garment...”

What did the five men keep saying as they pulled and pushed to get on top of that house.

I can imagine what they said as they began removing the roof... “If we can only get to Jesus...”

#19



Philemon 6 Amplified “[And I pray] that the participation in *and* sharing of your faith may produce *and* promote full recognition *and* appreciation *and* understanding *and* precise knowledge of every good [thing] that is ours in [our identification with] Christ *Jesus* [and unto His glory].”

#20



First, positive meditating on what God has said
Second, positive speaking
Third, positive action

James 1:22 NIV Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

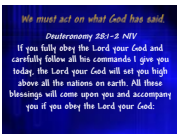
It is deceptive to make a positive confession and never act on it.

Faith without works is dead.

If you have a positive attitude, you must have positive actions. If the Bible says, you are the light of the world, how are you going to act?

If the scripture says, you are the righteousness of God in Christ, how are you going to act?

#21



We must act on what God has said.

Deuteronomy 28:1-2 NIV If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God:

Isaiah 1:19 NIV If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land;

We are talking about living the abundant, overcoming life.

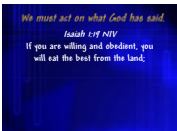
What would have happened in any of the illustrations we have looked at if they had not taken positive action?

None of them would have been healed.

None of them would have been safe.

None of them would have been successful.

#22



#23

Galatians 6:9 Amplified
"And let us not lose heart and grow weary
and faint in acting nobly and doing right,
for in due time and at the appointed
season we shall reap, if we do not loosen
and relax our courage and faint."

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God has the answer in mind for you.

He has planned for your success.

He has planned for great revival and renewal.

He has planned for your future.

He has planned a great harvest.