



## Full-time or Part-time Christian?

**Being a Christian is not confined to one day a week.** We all have to aspire to be Christians not just on Sunday or while in Bible school but also at work, in the Restaurant, marketplace.

We've all heard people say that "when I'm at work, I got to do what I got to do" I have to make money, so I don't have to follow any Christian values or beliefs. This is the wrong mindset. What these folks are saying is that they are Sunday Christians only. They are saying that their devotion to Jesus and the Word stays in church or in Christian circles. Not good!  
We have to be Christians at work while running our businesses, and while in government.

Example: Managing a store.

When I was managing a store, I ran it on these three principles in the order they are listed and I was very successful in a competitive business.

- Integrity
- Honesty
- Business.

"Integrity" comes from the word "integer" which means a whole number or a number that is not a fraction. We shouldn't be liars because we are around liars or in the world. We need not to be "politicians" but men and women of our words.

We can't just put on our best behavior on Sunday! We ought to be whole and constant not just a fraction. You got to be constant as your born-again Spirit man. Whenever we aren't constant, we confuse our soul. Your soul doesn't know the real you because you are always changing. Which man are you? Will the real you please stand up!

A lack of constancy is a sign of immaturity. I don't like dealing with inconstant people.

- i) Proverbs 11:3 "The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them."

- ii) Proverbs 20:7 "The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him."
- iii) Psalm 15:4 "In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not."

**We should not be "BINOs"—"Believers in Name Only"**

1. Seeking God

- A. Psalm 1:1-3 "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."
  - a) We need to seek God in and out of season not just when we are around like-minded believers. One of the reasons some people are part-time Christians is because they aren't seeking God continually. They seek God sporadically.
  - b) It's easier to be full-time Christian around Christians but not away from Christians mostly because they hold you accountable and they hold you to a higher level but when we get to be with the unbelievers, we tend to slack and let down our guard and witness.

2. Be a witness

- B. Acts 1:8 "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."
  - a) God has called us to BE a witness, not necessarily to witness. It is through BEING a witness that we effectively witness. We are to be a witness in every environment. Our lifestyle has to be a witness. Whether we believe it or not, know it or not, someone is watching us. We have to be on our best behavior all the time and everywhere.
  - b) Hebrews 12:14 "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:" For people to see the Lord that they can't see, our lives ought to be a reflection and witness of Him. People will either turn to the Lord by our witness or they will turn away from Him.

- c) Full-time employees have different benefits from part-time employees. God is not the variable but those who are full-time release and attract more favor than the part-time Christian.
  - i) We ought to be full time in both the Word and our behavior.
  - ii) There is no vacation nor off time to being a Christian.
  - iii) We are to be 24/7 Christians not just seasonal, situational, geographical. Philippians 1:21 "to live is Christ, to die is gain"
- d) We have been given the power to BE a witness. Therefore, we can be a witness.

### 3. Example to the believers

- C. 1 Timothy 4:12-13 "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. [13] Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine."
  - a) We ought to be examples to the believers on a full-time basis not a part-time basis.
  - b) In word, in conversation, charity, spirit, in faith, in purity. Give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

### 4. Blameless

- D. Titus 1:6 "If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly."
  - a) Blameless and sinless aren't the same words. These two are different. This is not a reference to being sinless but rather living a godly life to a point that people cannot find something against you.
  - b) It means to be unaccusable and irreproachable.

### 5. Ambassadors of Christ.

- A. 2 Corinthians 5:20 "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God."
  - a) Our conduct is important. We are representatives of heaven here on earth. You are being watched. People form an opinion of the Lord by how we act.

- i) People do not see what we are doing, but they see what we keep doing. In the same way, people do not hear what we are saying, but what we keep saying.
- b) We are ambassadors, representatives of heaven on earth. Our outside conduct speaks volumes of our relationship with the Lord.
- c) Our conversations should be about praising the Lord and blessing the Lord, not complaining. Our talk in addition to our conduct speaks volumes of whether we are full time Christians.
- d) Part-time Christians make poor and terrible ambassadors.

6. Continue in the Word.

- A. John 8:30-31 "As he spake these words, many believed on him. [31] Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;"
  - a) To become a full time Christian, we have to continue in the Word. The Word of God will influence how we think and act.

7. Part time Christian?

A. Peter

Mark 14:54,69-72 "And Peter followed him afar off, even into the palace of the high priest: and he sat with the servants, and warmed himself at the fire. [69] And a maid saw him again, and began to say to them that stood by, This is one of them. [70] And he denied it again. And a little after, they that stood by said again to Peter, Surely thou art one of them: for thou art a Galilaeen, and thy speech agreeth thereto. [71] But he began to curse and to swear, saying, I know not this man of whom ye speak. [72] And the second time the cock crew. And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus said unto him, Before the cock crew twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. And when he thought thereon, he wept."

B. Joseph

Genesis 39:7-9 "And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me. [8] But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand; [9] There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"

- a) Doing the right thing when no one is watching.
- b) Not compromising in the midst of any situation.
- c) Willing to suffer loss than to compromise.

Advice:

- a) If you aren't a full-time Christian, stay away from full-time ministry. You will cause more harm than good. Least to say, it is too soon for you.
- b) One of the most powerful truths I have come to learn is that we have to take our training as serious as the game itself.  
We need to train or practice the way we play because we play the way we train or practice.  
If we don't train well, we won't play well. We need to be full time Christians all the time. We should not wait for the day of temptation to put on our full time, exercise (practice) or our "A-game."