Trail Life
Adventure › Character › Leadership

BECOMING A ROMANS 12 TRAILMAN

MARCH TOPIC: Live Your Life in a Manner Fully Pleasing to the Lord

The Trail Life Motto is Walk Worthy, taken from Colossians 1:10 which says "…so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him…".

Paul writing to the Christians in a church in the town of Colossae, telling them that he is praying that they may be filled with the knowledge of God's will – so they might Walk Worthy!

In a letter to the Christians in Rome, Paul writes that they (and we) should "present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God…" (Ro 12:1). So, what does that mean? And how are we supposed to do that?

If you read further in Romans chapter 12, Paul tells you how to live a life "fully pleasing to Him", that is, to Walk Worthy.

First, don't be conformed to the pattern of this world – don't let the secular culture suck you in to its' ways. You will be under a lot of pressure to go along with the crowd and do what everyone else is doing. I challenge you to look for what is "good" and "acceptable" and "perfect" in God's eyes.

Paul tells us what the characteristics of a Christian are. For example, don't think highly of yourself. Do you know of anyone who thinks they are much better than everyone else? Don't be that person. Here are some others:

Love one another. Do you love your mom, dad, brother, or sister? That's the kind of love we are to have toward other Christians. They are your family because of your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Hate evil, love what is good. Do you hate it when somebody cheats on a test and gets a good grade? They didn't earn it because they cheated. Or steal something that belongs to you or one of your friends? How about when they tell a lie that hurts you or someone that you care about? The opposite of that is to love what is good.

Serve the Lord with zeal. Are you enthusiastic about God and the people who you go to church with? Do you look forward to being with them, worshipping together, praying for each other? Do you like to help others? Serving the Lord with zeal is like that. Loving to help others and share the Good News of Jesus Christ with everyone you know. All the time.

Be patient in trials. When things get really hard, do you want it to be over quickly? Like when you're sick, do you want it to just be over with? Or when you have a hard project to do – like a school term paper – do you wish it would just magically be done? There might be a lesson worth learning in that difficult thing you're going through. Be patient and look for the lesson you can learn.

Be constant in prayer. Jesus spent a lot of time in prayer. His is the Son of God who was born in a human body. Fully God, and in constant contact with the Father. Yet he prayed constantly. What does that tell you about our need to pray?

Bless those who persecute you. This might not make sense to you. Am I supposed to pray for those who are bad to me? Who hate me because I stand for Jesus? Yes, that's exactly what you are supposed to do. Jesus is our best example. Even while people hated him and fought against him, He blessed them, prayed for them, and eventually sacrificed his life for them. We are to do what He did and follow His example.

Be humble. Do you know people that always talk about themselves? Talk about how good they do or how they are the best athlete or get the best grades? Does that bother you? Don't you like people who are really good at something but give others credit? They don't brag about themselves but rather boast about how good others do? That's what it is to be humble. That's what Jesus did.

Don't pay back evil with evil, leave that to God. It's tempting to try to pay back people for doing wrong things to you, lying about you or putting you down. But God says to leave that to Him. Our responsibility is to bless those who do evil against us. The best way to treat those who do bad things to you is to pray for them.

Follow these examples and you'll follow the Trail Life Motto "…so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him…".

By Ted Hamilton