



ABUNDANT LIFE GOSPEL CHURCH
69, IJU ROAD, AGEGE, LAGOS
SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY
JULY 2019

TOPIC: MOTIVES AND THE HEART
STUDY V: DEVELOPING PROPER MOTIVES
TEXT: PROVERBS 4:25-27

INTRODUCTION:

In the studies on motives, we have seen that having good motives can put one on the right track with God. If at any time we realize that our motives will not be pleasing to God, we should deliberately set our hearts right before Him because He sees every intent and knows those that are truly His. Are you His? As a child of God, are your motives always right/good or wrong/evil?

As we round off on this series of study on MOTIVES AND THE HEART, today we shall be looking at how we can develop proper motives while dealing with both men and God.

HOW TO DEVELOP PROPER MOTIVES - DISCUSSION SESSION:

To develop proper motives, one has to:

1. GO THROUGH A REBIRTH AND REPENTANCE:

John 3:3 says, *"Jesus answered and said unto him, verily, verily I say unto thee. Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God"*

Anyone born of the flesh is flesh; and he that is born of the spirit is spirit - John 3:6.

In Gen. 6:5, God saw that the wickedness of man was great on earth and the imagination of his heart was continually evil. This means that everyman is born with evil motives but it only takes a rebirth of his spirit and a genuine repentance for him to develop good motives.

2. EMBRACE AN AFTER-LIFE MINDSET:

"It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment"- Heb. 9:27.

The moment one keeps remembering that there is eternity after life here on earth; he will set his motives right. We must wisely invest our time in noble pursuits, and

make right choices in all our dealings. The reason is that God will bring every secret thing into judgment both good and evil - Eccl. 12:14.

3. PRAY - ISAIAH 6:5-8

Prayer can set one's motives right. This is because it is largely made up of words, meditations of the human heart, cries and dependence on God. Evil motives and toxic attitudes can be changed when we table them before God on the altar of prayer. Prayer is not an occasional visit to God but a continual habitation and an expression of absolute dependence on God who has the power to deliver us from the snare of sin.

4. LET THE WORD OF GOD DWELL RICHLY IN HIS HEART - COLOSSIANS 3:16A, JOHN 15:15, PSALMS 119:9,11

If the word of God is continually in one's heart, he will not sin against God because he will be guided daily on the path of righteousness.

CONCLUSION:

From this study, we can see that there is no big deal about having good/proper motives. It only requires an individual effort to have a rebirth, a genuine repentance, the mindset of life-after-death and to imbibe the life of praying.