



## The Way, The Truth, and The Life Christian Center, Inc.

### SERMON NOTES

“The Church Is A Work In Progress”

SCRIPTURES: Acts 9: 31, Eph 5: 15 -18, 25- 27

Rev. J. Armstrong

March 12, 2025

---

#### OUTLINE

##### I. What Believers Have to Look Forward To

- A. Sauls conversion
- B. The date
- C. The symbolism of the church
- D. There Is only one church
- E. It was a peaceful time

##### II. What Believers Are Called to Do

- A. The Church was being
  - 1. built up in wisdom
  - 2. built up in virtue
  - 3. built up in and faith
- B. Walking in the fear of the Lord
- C. Walking in the comfort and encouragement of the Holy Spirit

##### III. What Believers Will Be Able to See (Church Growth)

- A. Acts 9: 31
- B. Psalm 103:14

##### IV. What Believers Have to Do (Ephesians 5: 15-18, 25-27)

- A. Walk carefully (5:15)
- B. Be wise (5:15)
- C. Consider the times (5:16)
- D. Prepare for evil days (5:16)
- E. Understand the will of the Lord (5:17)
- F. Be filled with the Spirit (5:18)
- G. Understand the “Oneness” principle (5:25)

##### V. What Believers Have to “Be” (Sanctified, presentable, and consecrated)

- A. Sanctification (5:26)
- B. Presentation (5:27)
- C. Consecration (5:27)

##### VI. Conclusion

- A. Building Up the Church (Edification) is “the” job for the believer

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- We understand that we have *ministry* gifts, *manifestation* gifts, and *motivational* gifts, which are distributed to each person by the will of the Holy Spirit.
- We have learned that the purpose of the gifts is for the edifying of the Body of Christ, which in turn will bring glory to God.
- We understand that God continues to prepare us for the work he has called us to do.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Can you picture how the Holy Spirit feels when believers do not make production after being given everything needed to do so? Try to picture it and share your picture.
- If you were a boss and you provided material (everything needed) for a worker to complete a task, and he or she refused to use it (for one reason or another), and therefore does not make production, what would you do?

## REFERENCES

### ***Acts 9:31 Amplified***

*31 So the church throughout Judea and Galilee and Samaria **enjoyed peace** [without persecution], being **built up** [in wisdom, virtue, and faith]; and **walking** in the fear of the Lord and in the **comfort** and **encouragement** of the Holy Spirit, it continued to grow [in numbers].*

### ***Ephesians 5 -18, 25 - 27 Amplified***

*15 Therefore see that you **walk carefully** [living life with honor, purpose, and courage; shunning those who tolerate and enable evil], not as the unwise, but as wise [sensible, intelligent, discerning people], 16 [b]making the very most of **your time** [on earth, recognizing and taking advantage of each opportunity and using it with wisdom and diligence], because the days are [filled with] evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish and thoughtless, but understand and firmly grasp what the **will of the Lord** is. 18 Do not get drunk with wine, for that is wickedness (corruption, stupidity), **but be filled with the [Holy] Spirit and constantly guided by Him.***

*25 **Husbands, love your wives** [seek the highest good for her and surround her with a caring, unselfish love], just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might **sanctify** the church, having **cleansed** her by the washing of water with the word [of God], 27 so that [in turn] He might **present** the church to Himself in glorious splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be **holy [set apart for God] and blameless.***